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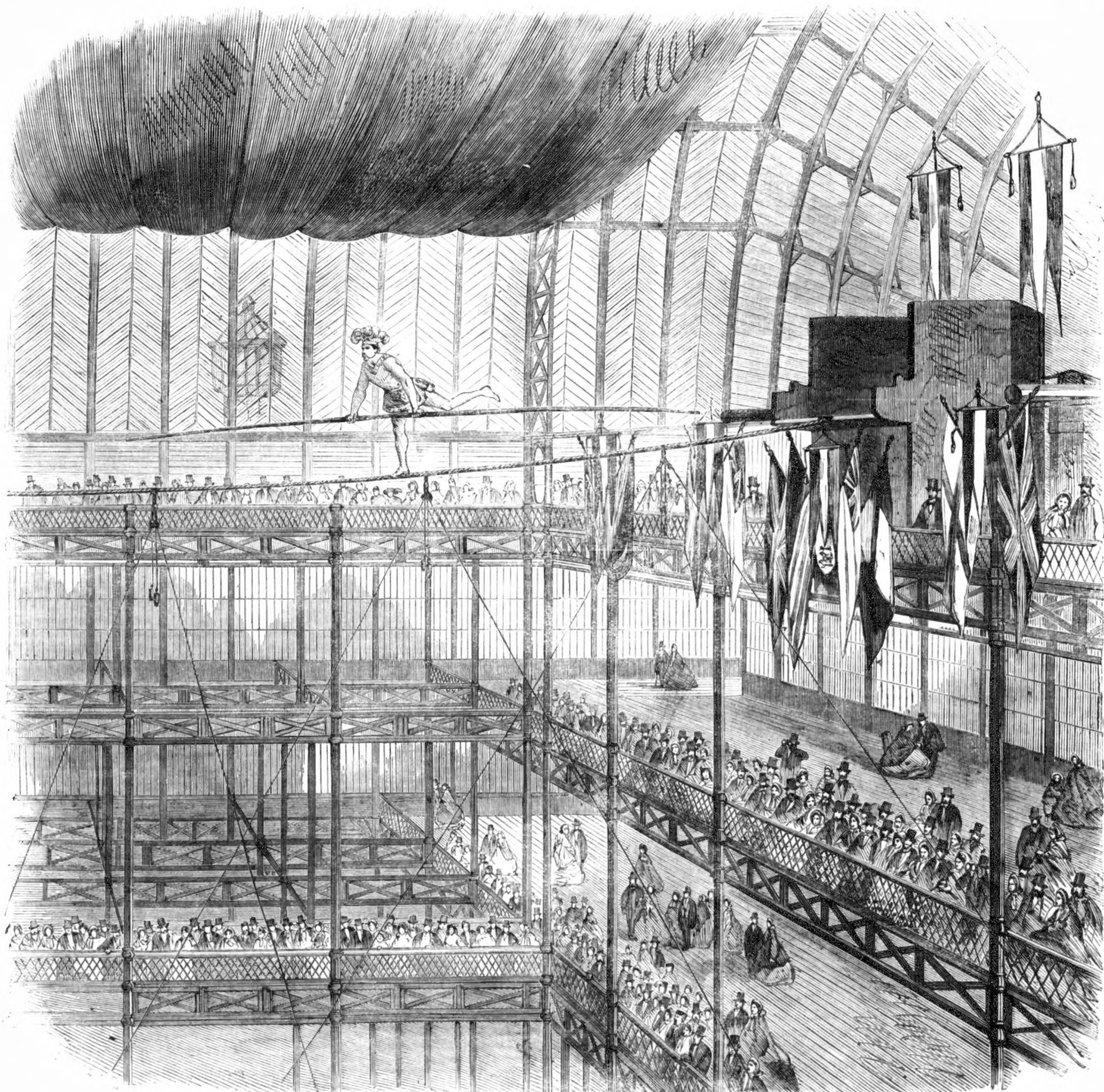
COTTON AND INDIGO.

It scarcely needed a serious debate in the House of Lords to prove the great importance the cotton question is assuming with reference to the quarrel between the American States and the wants of the manufacturers of that raw material. The Confederate States believe, or at least assert, that they hold in their hands a power by which they can compel England, and perhaps France, to recognise their independence. They threaten to withhold the supply of cotton from those countries which shall refuse to receive them into the polity of nations; and, although such a course of proceeding may appear both absurd and impracticable, it is certain that disastrous consequences would ensue from even a temporary interruption of trade. Such a prospect is by no means satisfactory, and no time should be lost in looking elsewhere for supplies of this great staple of our British manufactures. Fortunately, there are many regions of the earth whence it can be obtained in large quantities and of excellent quality. A competition may now be expected to arise which cannot prove otherwise than beneficial to consumers, though, possibly, the Confederate States will

have little reason to congratulate themselves on having called it into being. The country that is likely to derive the greatest advantages from the opening up of this new field for industry is undoubtedly our own Eastern empire. India possesses in climate and soil every capability for the growth of cotton to an almost unlimited extent. It requires but the stimulus of demand, and a due consideration for the circumstances of the country and the character and habits of the people, to draw forth the most ample supplies without let or hindrance. As it is, no inconsiderable quantity of cotton is obtained from the Bombay Presidency, and much more is readily obtainable. The cotton-fields of the Nerbudda stretch far and wide, but have hitherto been unavailable, owing to the difficulty of access. Roads, railways, and water communication are before all things requisite in order to bring to the coast the produce of those fertile districts. The whole of the Madras territory, again, abounds in land fitted for the cultivation of cotton, which is also produced of very superior quality throughout the Punjab and along the entire course of the Indus. By means of that river, aided by the railroads now rapidly approaching

completion, it will very shortly be practicable to bring it down to the port of Kurrachee, and ship it on board vessels bound direct for Liverpool, on very moderate and reasonable terms. Nor are these the only districts to which our manufacturers will turn their anxious attention. Bundelcund and the North-western Provinces not only provide sufficient for the cotton-clad populations of Bengal Proper, Nepal, and Thibet, but they also export a considerable quantity to China. There is, in truth, no lack of lands in India suitable for this particular kind of cultivation, nor is the expense of bringing the produce to the coast sufficient to counterbalance the many other advantages. Many large districts, too, enjoy peculiar facilities for its transmission to the seaboard. Bundelcund lies on the banks of the Jumna, and both that river and the Ganges flow through the North-western Provinces. The cost of carriage from these extensive and prolific tracts to Calcutta is less than one half-penny per pound, including a river insurance of 6 per cent. It is very doubtful if railways will be able to carry such a bulky commodity a distance of 600 miles at a cheaper rate.

What, then, are the great difficulties to be overcome of which



M. BLONDIN'S FIRST ASCENT AT THE CRYSTAL PALACE—SEE PAGE 371.

so much is made in certain quarters? The only real obstacle, and it is a very serious one, is the profound dishonesty of the native cultivators and middlemen, who have no scruples about gathering the cotton and separating it from the seed in the most careless manner; nor are they less prone to adulterate it with saltpetre or common salt, even intermixing sand and pebbles to increase the weight, and so meet the growing demand. Bad cultivation also is the rule, particularly in the North-western Provinces; and we fear that it is altogether useless to expect any great improvement in these respects from the natives themselves, whose habitual improvidence never looks beyond the present moment. They squander the immediate profits of their fraudulent conduct, regardless of discovery and shame, and reckless of the opportunity they are throwing away of securing for the future a valuable, permanent, and ever-increasing trade. In 1818, when a sudden demand for cotton arose in consequence of differences with the United States, the amount of fraud and adulteration resorted to by the Indian agriculturists and traders was beyond all calculation, and more than anything else tended to disgust our manufacturers and divert their attention from the cotton-fields of the East. It is a characteristic fact that the natives of India, whether needy ryots or rich merchants, have never done anything whatever for the improvement of any sort of staple, the extension of any branch of trade, or the introduction of any one thing either new or good. The number of shares held by any native of India—except, perhaps, in Bombay—in any railway company, steam navigation company, tea company, or any other undertaking having in view the development of the resources of the country, is absolutely nil. Every improvement in the manufacture of indigo, saltpetre, and opium is owing to the energy and ability of Europeans. The indigo trade was secured to India entirely through the intelligent and persevering enterprise which the English traders displayed in competing with other nations. The indigo of St Domingo, Caraccas, and Java has been nearly driven out of the market by the superior quality of the dye made in Bengal, but for which no credit whatever was due to the natives. On the contrary, the latter have done nothing but create difficulties in the way of all progress and advancement. It is therefore to Europeans, and especially to Englishmen, that we must look for a better system of cotton cultivation in India, so as to produce an article suitable for the English market. To these alone we must look for protecting this invaluable staple from the fraudulent adulteration to which it is certain to be subjected by the natives. What hope, then, is there of English capital and English settlers being tempted to labour in this most promising field? The treatment of the English settlers and indigo-planters in Bengal is the best answer we can give to that question, and it is such as to destroy all prospect of Englishmen venturing to a country the Government of which is as inhospitable as the climate. In Lower Bengal the planters have been literally driven out by a policy reckless of the ruin it wrought to English capitalists and speculators, and a brief consideration of that question will do more to show the real difficulties which beset the cotton cultivation than any amount of mere declamation and assertion.

The East India Company for many years after their first establishment in the East conducted their trade on precisely the same principles as the natives—that is, they sought by all means to obtain grants of monopolies from the existing authorities, and power to compel obedience to their terms. The amount of oppression exercised by the servants of the Company in those times in securing their investments was unparalleled, even in the East. As they gradually became more powerful, and acquired sovereign prerogatives, they enacted laws and regulations bestowing exceptional privileges and monstrous powers on their own servants. All this has been chronicled in blue books; and the petitions of British merchants against their apparently irresponsible abuse of power were duly laid before Parliament in 1822. The indigo manufacture in Bengal was established by the East India Company when at the very zenith of their fortune; but it gradually passed from their hands into those of the independent settlers, as, notwithstanding the advantages they arrogated to themselves, they never succeeded in making a profit upon that article. They handed over the trade, with all the intolerable abuses established by themselves, to the new purchasers, who, for a time, it must be admitted, trod in the foul steps of their predecessors. All objectionable practices, however, have long since died out; and the planter of the present day is a very mild representative of the trading civilian of the old East India Company's service.

It is the custom to make certain advances of money to the native cultivator, which he is supposed to employ in paying his rent, but which he more frequently dissipates in family ceremonies and rejoicings. Then, when the time arrives for the process of cultivation to commence, he is naturally too indolent or too dishonest to take any steps to fulfil his compact, unless sharply supervised by the planter from whom he received his advances. This supervision is usually exercised by means of native agents and overseers, who have recourse to measures of coercion altogether repugnant to our English notions. The result is a tardy submission and a sullen endeavour to fulfil the contract. The indigo plant is accordingly grown and delivered in due time, and the same system of advances, idleness, and dishonest shirking overcome by summary justice, is again renewed. Now, it so happens that a succession of eight bad seasons has left the ryots deeply in debt and as deeply disgusted with indigo cultivation. Loud complaints were made of their thralldom and of the nature of the claims upon them. The whole course of recent legis-

lation in Bengal has been to set the small farmer or ryot free from all coercion, and to release him from the power held over him by the landholder from time immemorial. It was obviously necessary to set the indebted ryot equally free from his creditor who exerted a like power over him. The Government of Bengal proceeded to do so without the slightest respect to the interests of the English planter. Regardless of the dishonesty of the debtor, and forgetful of its own share in founding the objectionable system, it at once proceeded—first, by indirect means, to teach the natives to break all their engagements, to ignore the past, and deny the present. They found apt scholars, though very different is the case when anything good is pressed upon their attention. The ryot was taught that no one could compel him to sow or plough, and that if he failed to complete an engagement in any one year it could not be renewed without his consent. No remedy was proposed and no protection was offered to the planter beyond that of the established courts of the country, which have been its curse and disgrace ever since they were established. One court to do the work of one million of inhabitants, nine-tenths of whom were cultivators, and of whom a very large proportion were only too happy to repudiate their engagements, is evidently a mere absurdity, and utterly useless for the proper fulfilment of the duty assigned to it. Without, then, the slightest consideration for the value of the capital invested, or for the interests of men who had spent the best years of their lives labouring in a noxious climate, the Government of Bengal at once destroyed the industry and ruined those engaged in it. If reform were necessary, and it is not denied that a reform of the indigo system, as well as of many other abuses, was very desirable, a statesman would have found means to have protected both parties, and most certainly would not have sacrificed a great interest to a theory, whilst those who were supported were far from being the most deserving parties. So now in cotton, as no superintendence or interest can be obtained without making advances to the cultivator, and as the latter is essentially dishonest, the danger of dealing with him is exceedingly great. But when the Government throws its weight into the scale against the capitalist all interference with the cultivator is impossible. He can sow or not as he pleases, he can gather his crop carelessly as he pleases, he can adulterate and defraud as he pleases; and the Englishman who ventures on such a speculation has no other redress than to proceed regularly by process in a court of equity against a man who has nothing, or who, with the assistance of all his neighbours, can prove anything, whilst the amazed Englishman, alone and helpless, can only listen to the monstrous falsehoods and perjuries brought to bear against him. No man in his senses will enter upon such a business, and the hope of obtaining good cotton from India dies away as we consider all these difficulties. The Government of India, knowing these facts perfectly, proposed to introduce a law compelling the cultivator by summary process to fulfil contracts for the delivery of agricultural produce; but Sir Charles Wood, Secretary of State for India, knowing nothing whatever on the subject, has sent out instructions not to proceed further with the law, and thus finally destroys all prospects of improvement in that direction. Sir C. Wood may be a philanthropist, but he is no philosopher. The social malady of India is dishonesty—a dishonesty which nothing but the most stringent measures can overcome, nothing but fear can mitigate. If it is well to allow this nation to wallow in this dishonesty nothing can be better than the policy of Sir C. Wood; but the result will be disastrous the glorious opportunity now presented of improvement will be lost, and the trade in existence, which is to provide our railways with traffic, will dwindle to an amount which will make all that has been done a loss and a disgrace to the Power which has committed so many and such enormous blunders.

PRINCE NAPOLEON PORTRAYED BY EDMOND ABOUT.—M. Edmond About thus describes in a Paris journal a portrait of Prince Napoleon in the Exhibition of Modern Artists:—"This portrait is not merely a good painting—it is a great work—the study of a superior mind—the production of a vast intellect. If every scrap of contemporary history were to be lost, posterity would know from this canvas alone what Prince Napoleon was. Here we see the man himself—this misplaced Caesar, whom nature cast in the mould of the Roman Emperors, but who has been condemned by fate hitherto to stand with folded arms at the foot of a throne; we see him proud of the name which he bears, and of the talent which he has revealed, visibly out to the heart, and nobly impatient of a fatality which, doubtless, will not always prevail against him; an aristocrat by education, a democrat by instinct, the legitimate and not the bastard son of the French Revolution; born for action, but condemned for a time to aimless agitation and sterile movement; thirsting for glory, disdainful of vulgar popularity, caring nothing for common report, and too high-hearted to court either people or bourgeois pursuant to the old traditions of the Palais Royal. Yes; this is the man who solicited the honour of leading French columns to the assault of Sebastopol, and returned to Paris shrugging his shoulders because of the slowness of a siege which seemed to him stupid. This is the man who from mere curiosity, and to dissipate the ennui of his active soul, took a promenade, with his hands in his pockets, among those polar icebergs where Sir John Franklin lost his life. This is he who took with vigorous arm the government of Algeria, and then threw it up in disgust, because he had not sufficient freedom of action. This is he who but yesterday stood forth in the Senate, and placed himself, *per saltum*, in the first rank of the most illustrious orators, crushing the Papacy as the lion of Sahel crushes a trembling victim, and then, turning on his heel, strolled back to his villa in the Avenue Montaigne, where he is surrounded by an exquisite atmosphere of elegant antiquity. If there be one characteristic of this noble and remarkable face which M. Flandrin has not sufficiently reproduced, it is that artistic, delicate, acute, Florentine expression which makes the Prince so like the Medici family. It would be possible, I think, to depict upon canvas some feature reflecting the graces of this powerful, delicate, and versatile mind, which astonishes, attracts, overawes, captivates without seeking to captivate, and rivets without effort the devotion of his friends."—The *Patrie* has the following paragraph on this extravagant but still artfully concocted article:—"We have reason to know that the Minister of the Interior has severely blamed the article of M. About on Prince Napoleon's portrait, and that immediately after its publication he warned the editor of the *Opinion Nationale* that if such things were said again (*si de pareils faits devaient se reproduire*) he should be obliged to resort to repressive measures."

THE CASE OF THE REV. MR. HATCH.—Mr. Hatch is now a prisoner in the Queen's Prison, he having been arrested at the suit of a judgment creditor. He had gone down to Westminster Hall to see his counsel, Mr. Montagu Chambers, on the occasion of his motion before the Court for a new trial. It appears for such a purpose he would not be privileged from arrest, and accordingly as he left the court in fancied security he was suddenly arrested, and conveyed to Whitecross Prison, whence he has been removed by habeas to the Queen's Prison until such time as an arrangement can be effected.

Foreign Intelligence.

FRANCE.

An Imperial decree defers the closing of the Session of the Legislative Body to the 19th of June.

Another decree enacts—"The terms of the Treaty of Commerce concluded on the 1st of May, 1861, between France and Belgium, are applicable to England."

Prince Napoleon embarked at Toulon on Tuesday for Spain. He is afterwards to visit Algeria, Portugal, and America.

SPAIN.

The Queen gave birth to a Princess on Tuesday.

The Duke of Montpensier will embark at Santander on the 20th inst. for England.

Letters from Madrid inform us of the very difficult situation of the Ministry, originating in the failure of the rest of the Morocco indemnity. It is now positive that the Moors cannot or will not pay, although threats have been applied. It is a question of blockading the coast. The last advices from Morocco represent Muley Soliman to be in a position to assume the offensive against his brother, the Emperor. He had been recognised as Emperor by several tribes, and was encamped in great force about twenty-five miles from Fez.

PRUSSIA.

The Prussian Chambers were closed on Wednesday. The King in his speech said:—

The Session now ending has had important results, which tend to confirm the Government in the line of policy which it has hitherto followed. These results will also augment the influence of Prussia in Germany and Europe.

The King then enumerated the treaties with foreign Governments which have been sanctioned, and the laws voted by the Chambers, and pointed out the advantages which were to be expected from them. His Majesty then thanked the Chambers for the grants for the organisation of the army, and said:—

As regards the form in which those grants have been voted, it may be passed over without remark, as not affecting any vital principle.

The King continued as follows:—

The military organisation affords Prussia strength to stand armed for her own protection as well as for that of the whole German Fatherland. The military organisation of Prussia is also the more necessary for the security of the German frontiers, as the attempt to revise the military organisation of the German Confederation has not succeeded.

The Danish Government has not entirely yielded to the demands of the German Federal Diet. The proposals which have been made by Denmark do not afford a certain prospect of a solution of the pending questions, but the nature of the relations between Prussia and the great Powers offers guarantees that they will not be affected by the energetic measures which have become necessary within the frontiers of the German Federal territory. If the representatives of the country respect limits, which to overstep would only serve the interests of the revolutionary party, then do I confidently expect a blessed continuation of my reign.

My motto for Prussia is, "Kingdom, by the grace of God, maintenance of the laws and the constitution, the fidelity of her people and of her brave army, justice, truth, confidence, and fear of God." If you adopt this motto, then I expect a future rich in hope.

The hostile ordonnance of 1852, whereby Prussia prohibited Prussian workmen from residing in Switzerland, and declared that no person whomsoever having worked in Switzerland should be allowed to exercise his calling in Prussia, is repealed.

AUSTRIA AND HUNGARY.

The Address to the Emperor, proposed by M. Deak, was on Wednesday adopted in the Lower House by a majority of three—the voting being 155 for and 152 against the Address.

"The amount of the taxes," says the *Independence*, "which Hungary pays annually to Austria is 66,000,000 florins, and of that sum there is at present an arrear of 15,000,000 florins, which, in spite of military executions, cannot be got in. The sum is small for a great empire like Austria, but so great is the distress of the public treasury at Vienna that the want of it causes the Minister of Finance to fear that he will not be able to pay the interest on Government Stock. Already he has made known to the Hungarian Chancery that if the taxes are not paid up he can no longer provide for the expenses of the administration of Hungary."

When the Hungarian movement lately began to show its importance the British Government dispatched a gentleman named Dunlop from the Legation at Vienna to Pesth for the purpose of affording information on the subject to our Cabinet. The Austrian Government thought themselves justified in objecting to Mr. Dunlop being retained in Pesth, and he has now been recalled.

RUSSIA AND POLAND.

The death of Prince Gortschakoff, the late Lieutenant-Governor of Warsaw, is announced. Although it was known that the condition of Prince Gortschakoff's health was such as to preclude him from discharging his official duties, still the news of his death came with the effect of a surprise. Prince Gortschakoff had served Russia long and devotedly.

On the 30th ult. there was a procession in the streets of Warsaw. Order was not, however, disturbed. The troops are still encamped in the streets.

DENMARK.

The *Dagbladet* of Tuesday says:—"The non-German Powers are engaged in bringing about a peaceful settlement of the dispute between Denmark and Germany. Denmark has always followed their advice, while Holstein has invariably rejected all the proposals of the Danish Government. Sweden has, however, proposed an arrangement which the German Powers are willing to accept with some modifications."

TURKEY AND THE EAST.

The accounts arriving as to the decision of the International Conference on the Syrian question are very contradictory. According to one despatch the determination was to establish in the Lebanon one Government, the chief of which should be of the religion of the majority of the inhabitants, and should be directly dependent upon the Porte itself, and not on the Turkish Pacha at Beyrout. Another account states that the Austrian compromise had been accepted, and that the Maronites are to be governed by a Christian and the Druses by a Mussulman, both to be under the Turkish Pacha.

The insurgents in the Herzegovina, according to accounts from Ragusa, have repelled the advances made to them by the Turkish Government, and in overwhelming numbers have attacked the troops under the command of Dervish Pacha.

The *Frankfort Journal* states that the French Cabinet has informed the Porte that whatever may be the result of the eventual military operations of Omer Pacha, France will not tolerate in any case such a modification of the political position of Montenegro as may affect the independence of that country. The same authority states that Russia has either made, or will make, a similar declaration.

A new Ministry has been formed in Wallachia. The Cabinet now superseded had enjoyed office, we think, about seven days.

ST. DOMINGO.

According to the last accounts from St. Domingo the inhabitants are not so unanimously in favour of annexation to Spain as affirmed by the Spanish journals, and in several places the people have risen against the new Government, and more than one conflict has taken place with the troops. General Cabral, who commanded the Dominican army, but would not take any part in the annexationist movement, and who had retired to Hayti, has appeared on the frontier, and has issued a proclamation offering to aid the Dominicans to recover their freedom.

INDIA.

Mr. Laing brought forward his Budget on April 26. It gave great satisfaction. The revenue has increased by £2,080,000. There is a reduction of £3,600,000 in the expenditure, which has been mainly brought about by the diminution of the Army to less than 200,000 men. The income tax and the license tax are to be abandoned. Local Legislative Councils, and the right of local taxation and control of local expenditure, are promised. Mr. Laing proposes to raise £500,000 by taxation through the local Governments, which will balance the finances and leave a surplus of £250,000. There is to be no new loan on account of increased expenditure for public works.

The volunteering in Bengal, as well as in Bombay, of the European army for the Line is most successful amongst the soldiers of all arms. The Army amalgamation order appears to excite intense hostility, especially on the part of the officers.

There is a rumour of the death of the ex-King of Oude. Some excitement has again manifested itself among the Santhals, arising from the exactions of the money-lenders.

AFFAIRS OF ITALY.

THE ITALIAN KINGDOM.

The Committee appointed by the Chamber to examine the bill on the national armament proposed by Garibaldi has agreed to the organisation of 220 battalions of National Guards, to be composed of men between thirty-five and forty years of age.

The national fête has been celebrated with great splendour. Victor Emmanuel issued an order of the day to the Army on the presentation of the new banners of the kingdom of Italy, in which he reminded his soldiers of the gradual realisation of his father's declaration in 1848 that the destinies of Italy even then were ripening. Now, declares the King of Italy, they are ripe at last.

The *Opinione* of Turin announces that the Italian Government has placed the Army on a peace footing from motives of economy; there being, at least for this year, no probability of war.

THE PAPAL STATES.

The Papal Government is represented as endeavouring to enter into negotiations with European Powers for the preservation of its territory. Meantime reactionary plots are still being carried on, and efforts are even being made to extend their range. A Bourbon committee, under a religious denomination, has been formed at Rome. It is presided over by Count Trapani.

A very impressive popular manifestation took place on Monday last as the Pope was passing through the streets.

Francis II. does not intend to quit Rome. He has addressed another despatch to his representatives at foreign Courts protesting against the new Italian loan, which, he says, he will never recognise, so far as it affects the interests of the Two Sicilies.

THE CIVIL WAR IN AMERICA.

By the arrival of the Great Eastern at Liverpool, which left New York on the 25th ult., we have intelligence of the first decided warlike movement on the part of the Northern Army. On the morning of the 24th 13,000 Federal troops crossed the Potomac into Virginia, and advanced in three divisions, and took up positions at Alexandria, the Arlington Heights, and Fairfax Courthouse. By the latter movement all communication with Richmond, Harper's Ferry, and other points south of the Alexandria and Orange Gap Railway was cut off. The whole of the movements were made without loss, and with little opposition from the Southern troops. General Butler had left Fort Monroe for Sewell's Point, where the Southerners were posted in great force, and a sharp encounter was shortly expected.

The movement on Alexandria was accompanied by one calamity. Colonel Ellsworth, the commander of the New York Fire Zouaves, with a file of men, had started for the telegraph-office to cut the wires:—

They had proceeded three blocks, when the attention of Colonel Ellsworth was attracted by a large Secession flag flying from the Marshal House, kept by J. W. Jackson. Colonel Ellsworth entered the hotel, and, meeting a man in the hall, asked, "Who put that flag up?" The man answered, "I don't know; I am a boarder here." Colonel Ellsworth, Lieutenant Winsor, the Chaplain of the regiment, Mr. House, a volunteer aid, and the four privates went up to the roof, and Colonel Ellsworth cut down the flag. The party were returning down the stairs, preceded by Private Francis E. Brownell, of company A. As they left the attic the man who had said he was a boarder, but who proved to be the landlord, Jackson, was met in the hall, having a double-barrel gun, which he levelled at Brownell. Brownell struck up the gun with his musket, when Jackson pulled both triggers of the gun. The contents lodged in the body of Colonel Ellsworth, entering between the third and fifth ribs. Colonel Ellsworth was at the time rolling up the flag. He fell forward on the floor of the hall and expired instantly, only exclaiming, "My God!" Private Brownell, with the quickness of lightning, levelled his musket at Jackson and fired. The ball struck Jackson on the bridge of the nose and crashed through his skull, killing him instantly. As he fell Brownell followed his shot by a thrust of his bayonet, which went through Jackson's body. The companions of Colonel Ellsworth, seven in number, immediately posted themselves so as to command the halls of the hotel, and threatened to shoot the first man who showed his head outside of a door. In this way they stood for ten minutes. Their protracted absence alarmed Adjutant Leoser, who ordered company A, Captain Coyle, to search for them. The company found their commander dead and their comrades in possession of the hotel. A surgeon was then sent for, but Colonel Ellsworth was dead long before his arrival.

It is said that the President, being a personal friend of Colonel Ellsworth, was greatly affected by his death.

The troubles in Missouri had been brought to an end by a compact between General Harney and General Price, commanding the State militia, which had been disbanded, and the men returned to their homes.

The British barque *Hiawatha*, with a cargo of tobacco, had been seized for attempting to run the blockade.

Mr. Lincoln's Administration had expressed its willingness to adopt the Code of the European Congress of 1856 in regard to privateers.

The recognition on the part of the English Government of the belligerent rights of the South appears to have excited a considerable amount of unfriendly comment on the part of the New York press; but later assurances of England's neutrality have produced more favourable spirit.

From the South we learn that the Confederate Government had issued proposals for a new loan of fifty millions of dollars; that the blockade of Charleston had been raised, the frigate *Niagara* having been ordered to the Gulf of Mexico; and that the Governor of Kentucky had warned the Federal authorities against making any military movement which could interfere with the strict neutrality of that State.

A Federal steamer had destroyed one of the batteries defending the approach to Norfolk harbour.

The Federal Government had seized all the despatches which had accumulated within the last twelve months in every telegraph-office throughout the Free States.

The Canadians had expressed their sympathy for the North by offering a regiment of volunteers to President Lincoln, who had accepted the proffered aid.

The Federal Government had warned Spain against taking possession of St. Domingo.

DEATH BY LIGHTNING.—Two labourers, in constructing the new sewer for the metropolitan drainage in Tufnell Park, Holloway, took shelter under some trees during the storm of Wednesday morning and were struck by lightning. One of them, whose name could not be ascertained, was instantly killed. His face and hands were much discoloured. One boot was torn to pieces, and his cap, the inside and wadding of which had been scorched, was found high up on one of the trees under which he had been standing. The other man, in an insensible state, was conveyed to the Royal Free Hospital, Gray's-inn-road. In the north-western district of London the storm was accompanied by a prodigious hail-shower.

ENGLAND AND AMERICA.

The following is a copy of the letter laid before the House of Commons by Lord John Russell on Monday evening:—

Foreign Office, June 1, 1861.

My Lords,—Her Majesty's Government are, as you are aware, desirous of observing the strictest neutrality in the contest which appears to be imminent between the United States and the so-called Confederate States of North America; and, with the view more effectually to carry out this principle, they propose to interdict the armed ships, and also the privateers of both parties, from carrying prizes made by them into the ports, harbours, roadsteads, or waters of the United Kingdom, or of any of her Majesty's colonies or possessions abroad.

I have accordingly to acquaint your Lordships that the Queen has been pleased to direct that orders in conformity with the principles above stated should forthwith be addressed to all proper authorities in the United Kingdom, and to her Majesty's naval and other authorities in all quarters beyond the United Kingdom, for their guidance in the circumstances.

I have, &c., J. RUSSELL.

The Lords Commissioners of the Admiralty. Similar letters have been addressed to the Secretaries of State for India, War, and the Colonies.

THE MACDONALD AFFAIR.

The following is the answer of Lord J. Russell to Baron Schlieinitz's despatch on this subject, already published. It is addressed to Lord A. Loftus:—

Foreign Office, May 22.

My Lord,—I send your Lordship herewith copy of a despatch from Baron Schlieinitz, which was put into my hands by Count Bernstorff, and which contains observations upon a speech made by Lord Palmerston in the House of Commons on the case of Captain Macdonald.

I have, in the first place, to remark that, as a general rule, it is inconvenient and objectionable that the Government of one country should make matters which pass in debate in the Parliament of another country the subject of diplomatic representation and correspondence; but her Majesty's Government are willing to admit that there may be cases in which statements made or opinions expressed by a Minister of the Crown may, if it is thought advantageous to do so, be made exceptions to this general rule. Her Majesty's Government, therefore, do not complain of the step taken by Baron Schlieinitz on the present occasion as objectionable in principle.

With respect to the contents of that despatch, I have to state that, as it consisted substantially of a reply to and an animadversion upon the speech of Lord Palmerston, it was natural that I should consult Lord Palmerston as to the manner in which that despatch should be dealt with; and I have now to inform you that if Baron Schlieinitz's despatch had contained merely a renewed record of the opinions of the Prussian Government on the Macdonald affair, and a statement that those opinions had in no degree been changed by what was said in the House of Commons on the occasion in question, Lord Palmerston would not have considered it necessary to prolong by an answer a discussion which every well-wisher to a cordial good understanding between the Prussian and British Governments must regret, and must be desirous of seeing brought to an end; but as Baron Schlieinitz has chosen in one part of his despatch to accuse Lord Palmerston "of heaping ungrounded reproaches on the Government and laws of Prussia," and in another part "of having put forth reproaches without grounds or justification against the Government and laws of Prussia," he deems it right to state that what he said on the occasion in question was said advisedly and upon full conviction; that he deliberately abides by all that he then said; and that he sees nothing in it either to be retracted or to be explained away; and he is convinced that the opinions which he then expressed are entirely shared by the great bulk of his fellow-countrymen.

Those opinions, however, he would observe, were confined to the conduct of the Prussian Government, and of their subordinate officers. He said nothing that could justly give offence to the Prussian nation, with regard to whom he only expressed a great regret that they should be liable to laws which vest in subordinate and irresponsible agents powers and authority which, as in the case of Captain Macdonald, are capable of being used with cruelty and injustice without any overstepping of the strict limits of the law.

You will read this despatch to Baron Schlieinitz and give him a copy of it.—I am, &c., J. RUSSELL.

IRELAND.

A MOCK FUNERAL.—Charles Higgins and Devereux, an attorney, have been committed for trial by the Dublin magistrates for obtaining money by burying an empty coffin and certifying that it contained the body of Mrs. Higgins, by which her husband obtained a sum of £500. The principal witness was Ann O'Laughlin, who stated that on one occasion when she visited Higgins she found him and his wife starving. Higgins said to her, "If you aid me I shall get money and means to support life and to prevent my poor wife perishing from utter want and starvation." O'Laughlin weakly complied, and promised to bring some clay to weight the coffin, as a corpse would have done. The rest of the story may be told in the witness's own words:—"I went to the house appointed in Bishop-street, bringing with me an apronful of clay, scraped off the road. I met there Devereux and his sister-in-law; I gave her the apronful of clay. I then went home, but I returned at a later hour. I then saw Miss Duffield, who resided in the house. She invited me to take a cup of tea. I complied, and sat at 'the wake' until two or three o'clock in the morning. In the morning Devereux came and said there were neither horses, hearse, or carriages to be got on that day; but, nevertheless, the funeral did take place on that day. Higgins and Devereux occupied one of the funeral-coaches. Mrs. Higgins (the supposed deceased) remained at Haddington-road during the funeral. She could not stir from the house, being prostrated by hunger. I saw Mr. and Mrs. Higgins with Devereux together in company after the mock funeral."

THE PROVINCES.

BANK SUSPENSION.—The suspension has been announced of the old-established banking firm of Messrs. T. and R. Raikes and Co., of Hull, with liabilities supposed to amount to about £100,000. The prospects of the liquidation have not transpired. The suspension has also been announced of Messrs. Mackay and Read, East India agents, with liabilities estimated at about £30,000.

BOLD FORGERY BY A BOY.—At the Manchester City Police Court, on Monday, William Sands, a lad of fourteen, recently employed by Mr. Von der Lahr, was charged with forging a cheque for £370 10s. The prisoner was the only person employed in the office of Mr. Von der Lahr. During Whitsun week, whilst his master was absent, the prisoner obtained access to the cheque-book, which was kept in a locked drawer, and drew a cheque for £370 10s., forging the signature of his master, without, however, any attempt at imitating his master's writing. He presented the cheque at Messrs. Cunliffe and Brooks's bank on Wednesday, the 22nd ult., and obtained three notes of £100 each, a £50 note, and the remainder in gold. The prisoner proceeded at once to London, and the crime was not discovered till some days afterwards. As soon as it was known, however, a detective was dispatched to London, and, after some trouble, the boy was captured on Saturday afternoon at a house in Clerkenwell. He made an unsuccessful attempt to escape by endeavouring to jump over a wall at the back of the house. The prisoner handed over to the police two notes of £100 each, a £50 note, a £20 note, and a £50 in gold, all of which he had intrusted to the care of the landlady of the house where he was found. Besides this, he also delivered up two watches (gold and silver), a guard-chain, a violin, and other articles, which he had purchased with the stolen money. The prisoner was a pupil of Dr. Marks, and went to Croydon to see a fellow-pupil who resided there. He has no father, and on a recent occasion he stole some money from his mother and ran away with it to Liverpool, whence he was brought back. He was committed for trial.

MR. T. D. DUNCOMBE AND HUNGARY.—Mr. Duncombe has received an address from the General Assembly of the county of Zolyorn, in acknowledgment of his advocacy of Hungarian rights and independence in the House of Commons. In his reply to the address Mr. Duncombe says:—"Be assured that although certain venal portions of the press of Europe may seek to blacken your institutions, the true character and value of those institutions is better understood in England than is agreeable to the friends of despotism. The remarkable resemblance of your institutions to those of England is not unknown to Englishmen, and your noble perseverance in maintaining the life of those institutions commands the respect of my countrymen. Do not despair or be deceived, I entreat of you, by the halting and hesitation of officials entangled in the meshes of diplomacy. Some of these, I regret to say, value the unity of a nominal Austrian empire above the sacred causes of liberty and national independence; but the voice of public opinion, in admiration of the firm and dignified attitude of your Diet, has been so loud and so universally expressed it sets them at defiance; and rest assured that the course which the English Government shall take will be narrowly watched by the Parliament and people of England, to whom that Parliament is responsible. As to myself, in raising my voice whenever I have been able in behalf of the rights of Hungary, I have only fulfilled what the deep convictions of my conscience assure me is the cause of right; and I shall not cease, while I have the power, to raise that voice in behalf of so sacred a cause."

DEATH OF COUNT CAVOUR.

We have received official communication of the death of Count Cavour, which took place at Turin at seven o'clock on Thursday morning.

The Count was taken suddenly ill last week; and up to Tuesday he had been bled six times; and on that he had an attack of fever, preceded by a fit of shivering. We were still told, however, that no danger existed—that the Count suffered from a slight attack of typhus fever.

The following telegram was forwarded just previous to his demise:—

Turin, Wednesday Night.

The following bulletin respecting the state of Count Cavour was published at six o'clock this evening:—"The fever continues, but no noticeable change has taken place." At 7 p.m. a great crowd blocked up the avenues leading to Count Cavour's hotel. Great emotion was manifested by the people when the procession bearing the sacraments of the Church went into the hotel. At 8 30 p.m. the physicians declared that they entertained hopes that their patient would pass a more quiet night. An immense crowd surrounds the hotel.

Signor Minghetti has been intrusted *ad interim* with the portfolio for Foreign Affairs, and General Fanti with the provisional administration of the Marine.

IMPORTANT MEETING ON CHURCH RATES.

A SPECIAL general meeting of the members of the Church Institution was held on Tuesday afternoon in the hall of King's College, Strand, in reference to the present position of the church-rate question. Mr. Henry Hoare presided; and there were present Lord Ingestre, M.P., Lord Robert Montagu, M.P., Mr. Hubbard, M.P., Mr. Watlington, M.P., Mr. Cave, M.P., Sir E. Cust, Sir Thomas Phillips, the Hon. H. Walpole, Mr. Sowder, Q.C., Mr. Sumner (Commissioner for Surrey), Mr. Clabon, and the Hon. R. P. Bouverie.

Mr. Clabon rose to move the first resolution—namely, "That it would be desirable to have the question of church rates settled on the basis of leaving out, as objects of the rate, such expenses as are connected with the performance of Divine worship, the repair of the fabric of the church and churchyard being left as the objects of the rate, and of obtaining in return more effectual powers for making and recovering the rate." He said they must not shut their eyes to the fact announced in the House of Commons that some members of Parliament were in favour of compromise, and that Mr. Sotherton Esteourt had promised to submit a bill to Sir John Trelawny within a fortnight.

Mr. Jones, barrister-at-law, seconded the motion.

Mr. A. Beresford Hope moved the following amendment:—"That, whatever settlement of the church rate question be adopted, it should be one which should not establish any distinction between the fabric rate and the worship rate." The people generally would never pay a fabric rate in consequence of the beauty or the antiquity of the fabric, but they might be induced to pay a fabric rate if they found that it could become of use to them. If this fabric rate were carried they would have Sir J. Trelawny, Mr. Bright, Mr. Stansfeld, and other leaders of the movement, asking for the admission of Dissenters into the churches; and by this the Church of England would receive a more fatal blow than she could sustain by the total abolition of the church rates. The mainstay of the Church of England was that she had never parted with her freehold property in the church. That was the reason why she had been able to keep the purity of her worship, and to avoid those compromises with Nonconformists which would so terribly hamper her. If this compromise were accepted, the freehold of the church would go, and all the rest would soon follow. In India the Bishop of Calcutta had ordered his chaplains to allow the Presbyterian chaplains to go shares in their chapels, and that which they at home thought so impossible was already at work in one branch of the Church of England. The Dissenters were springing every mine of that sort which could find. This year they had brought in Sir Morton Peto's Nonconformist Burial Bill, because they very well knew that if they got the churchyards they would soon get the churches. He (Mr. Beresford Hope) had the authority of the Bishop of Oxford for saying that he thought the compromise now proposed was, of all others, the most impossible.

Lord Ingestre, M.P., seconded the amendment. He would say "war to the knife, and stick to our principles."

Sir Edward Cust did not think that any compromise would be accepted; but at the same time he was of opinion that war to the knife would not be acceptable to the majority of Churchmen.

Mr. Hubbard, M.P., did not think the state of affairs in the House of Commons promised a settlement this Session, and Churchmen ought not, therefore, hastily to make up their minds, but to consider some plan of adjustment which would enable the Legislature to get out of its present difficulties.

Lord R. Montagu, M.P., suggested that Mr. Clabon should withdraw his motion and allow him to move that the executive committee should send the resolutions which had been proposed, and an abstract of other measures which had been suggested, to the Rural Deans throughout England, so that the feeling of the clergy might be obtained upon them, and also what was their feeling on the propriety of concession, and the basis on which it should rest.

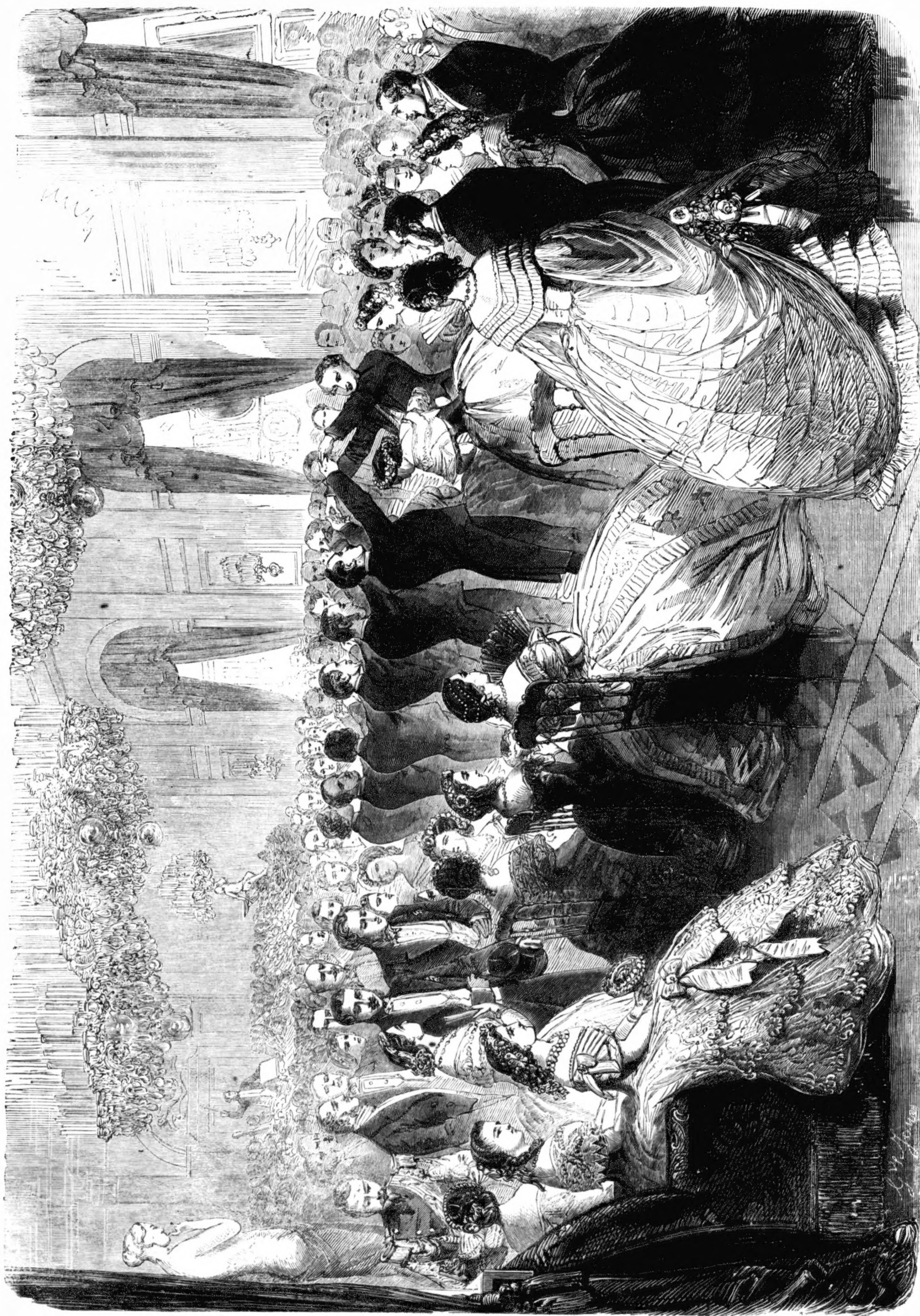
Mr. Hubbard, M.P., objected to the withdrawal of the motion, inasmuch as the executive committee of the institution had given it their sanction, and they thought the opinion of the meeting should be taken upon it.

The Chairman then took the sense of the meeting, the result being that Mr. Clabon's resolution was rejected and Mr. Beresford Hope's amendment carried.

Lord R. Montagu, M.P., then moved his resolution, which was seconded by Mr. Beresford Hope, and unanimously adopted.

THE COLOURS OF THE OLD WESTMINSTER VOLUNTEERS.—The colours which were carried by the Old Westminster Volunteers for nearly twenty years were on Saturday afternoon presented to the Queen's Westminsters on the parade-ground facing the Horse Guards. The presentation was witnessed by thousands of persons. Although the weather was very unfavourable the balconies and roofs of the buildings which commanded a view of the parade-ground were crowded. The regiment mustered in Westminster Hall to the number of eighteen companies (amounting in the aggregate to about 1500 men), and then marched through Parliament-street and Whitehall to the Horse Guards, headed by its band. The cadets, accompanied by their band, had previously taken up their position in front of the Horse Guards, near the flagstaff. The corps having deployed into three parts of a square, the ranks were opened, and the general salute given. The company appointed to receive the standards (No. 17, or St. Clement Danes, company, under the command of Captain Sulwell) then marched into the centre of the parade, Lord Grosvenor and the whole of the mounted officers taking up their positions in front of the receiving company. The colours were then unfurled. They consisted of the King's colours, the regimental colours, and the saluting-flag. There were also six of the old camp colours. Captain Robertson, R.A., son of the Colonel of the Old Westminster Volunteers, made the presentation in an excellent speech, in which he said:—"It was in 1798, now sixty-three years ago, when as a boy of ten years of age I witnessed the solemn consecration of these very colours on the identical spot, as near as may be, where Nelson's Monument now stands in Trafalgar-square, then the King's Meers and private parade of the Westminsters."

WINDOW-GLAZING PENALTIES.—The following is the enacting clause of Sir Charles Burrell's bill:—"Every occupier of any house or other building, or part of a house or other building, or other person, who orders or permits any person in his service (other than a tradesman or the (male) apprentice or servant of a tradesman, in the exercise of his calling), to stand, sit, or kneel on the sill of any window, or to be on the outside of any window, in order to clean, paint, or perform any other act with regard to any window, or any house or other building, or anything growing thereon or affixed thereto, shall, unless such window be in the tank or basement story, be liable on summary conviction for the same to a penalty not exceeding forty shillings for each such offence, or, in the discretion of the justice of the peace in England or Ireland, or the Sheriff or magistrates in Scotland, before whom he is convicted, may be committed to prison, there to remain for a period not exceeding fourteen days."



GRAND BALL AT PARIS GIVEN BY COUNT DE MORNAY.

BALL GIVEN BY COUNT DE MORNAY.

OUR Engraving represents the ball given by Count de Mornay in order to inaugurate the new state apartments in the Presidency. It was an occasion on which a brilliant display became only a fitting compliment to the distinction of the guests, and it may well be believed that the Count determined it should be one of the most superb fêtes of the season.

The magnificent gallery, which joins the hôtel to the Chamber of the Corps Législatif, and in which have been arranged the valuable collection of pictures, was converted into a ballroom, and the ladies who assembled there seemed, both in beauty and in the exquisite freshness of the dresses, to be only the reproduction in a varied costume of the models of Watteau and Boucher, which smiled from the paintings on the walls.

The orchestra continued to supply a delightful selection of music to the indefatigable dancers until it became necessary for the company to seek some repose and, however reluctantly, to leave what will be the last and most splendid of the spring assemblies.

SALMON-POACHING ON THE TWEED.

ALTHOUGH, happily, nowadays, no Johnnie Armstrongs or Hobbie Nobles enliven the Scottish borders with midnight raids, yet the old lawless spirit still abides strongly in the sturdy, pugnacious race peopling the huge round-backed mountains and misty "hopes" of Tweedsdale. Now, however, it finds vent principally in poaching, particularly in the determined illegal persecution of the poor salmon in the rivers, and in daring resistance to the officers of the protecting powers that be, who, however well armed, brave, and numerous, are almost invariably overpowered by the "country-side" folk.

The banks of the Tweed, about Selkirk particularly, have recently been the scene of many desperate battles—the narrative of one of which may be taken as illustrating the story of the rest. Some weeks since, at Jedburgh, before the Lord Justice Clerk, William Dodds, ploughman, Windydoors, and Thomas Miller, labourer, Peelburnhead, Yarrow, were charged with assault, to the effusion of blood and serious injury of the person, in so far as they having, on the 14th of December last, been out, along with a party of twenty-two others, for the purpose of killing salmon, contrary to the provisions of the Tweed Act. The affray took place at a short distance below Ashiesteel Bridge, and the indictment charged specific assaults on Mr. Smurthwaite and six other water-bailiffs on the night in question.

The evidence showed an amount of spirit on the part of the water bailiffs, and daring on that of the poachers, truly invigorating. Guns, bludgeons, spears, &c., were used on both sides with the utmost impartiality. Bailiffs and poachers were flung into the river indiscriminately, to sink or swim as the case might be; and, after a gallant conflict for hours, the former were ultimately routed with broken heads but undaunted spirits, for they immediately after managed to capture two of the enemy, who were accordingly indicted as above, but in whom, notwithstanding the clearest evidence, a sympathising jury could find no guilt, the verdict returned being "Not proven," to the manifest satisfaction of a crowded court.

The learned Judge then took occasion to address the following remarks to the Sheriffs of the border counties in reference to the Tweed Fisheries Act:—"It is quite obvious to me, from the proceedings which have occupied our attention at this time, that public feeling in the southern counties in connection with the execution of the provisions of the Tweed Fisheries Act is in anything but a wholesome state. What the cause may be it is not for me to speculate

upon, as I entertain no opinion on the quality of these Acts and have not studied their provisions; but I think it right to say that the body of men who are charged with the execution of these laws are placed in a very trying position, and one in which no man should be placed charged with the execution of the law. They are exposed to great personal risk without any adequate protection; and, so long as matters stand as they are, these Acts cannot be carried into operation, or will only be productive of such abortive trials as we have this day witnessed. Whether the defect is in the Acts themselves, or in their administration by the constituted authorities, it is not for me to say; but of this I am satisfied, that nothing can be more prejudicial to the condition of these counties, and to the morals of the population, than to allow the matter to remain as it is at present. I have seen honest country lads brought here to-day, many of whom are gradually losing all respect for the law in the indulgence of what is strictly forbidden by these Acts, and who are in consequence beginning to be gradually demoralised. They may be led into the commission of other crimes of a very different description by an imperceptible process of degradation; and I therefore commend these Acts to your careful consideration, and through you, to those with whom you act in public offices throughout these counties, as one of the most important subjects which have been brought under my consideration since I have gone on circuit."

THE AMERICANS IN PARIS.

A MEETING of Americans favourable to the Union took place in Paris last week. Mr. Dayton, the newly-appointed Minister of the United States to Paris, was called upon by the president to address the meeting. In the course of his observations he said that, so far



SALMON-POACHING AFFRAY ON THE TWEED.

as he could judge since his arrival in Paris, there was no unfriendly feeling on the part of France to the United States, and certainly no French citizens would be found among the privateers. Mr. Dayton expressed his undoubted conviction that the rebellion would be put down.

Mr. Cassius Clay, the American Minister to St. Petersburg, was then called upon by the chairman to address the meeting, which he did at some length. He spoke with energy on the conduct of England, and of the "belligerent rights" recognition, and the English Government:—

I am accused of threatening England. I am not in the habit of casting about me to see how I may make truth most palatable. Let those who stand in the way of truth look out. If England, after all she has said against slavery, shall draw her sword in its defence, then I say, great as she is, she shall perish by the sword. For then not only France, but all the world, shall cry out, 'Perfidious Albion!' When she mingles the red crosses of the Union Jack with the piratical black flag of the 'Confederate States of America'—will not just as certainly the tricolor and the stars and stripes float once more in fraternal folds. Can France forget who has doggedly hounded in all the fields of her glory? Can Napoleon forget St. Helena? Will he hear his bidding turn his back upon the East? Shall 'Partant pour la Syrie' be heard no more in France for ever? Russia strengthens herself by giving up slave labour for the omnipotent powers of nature; which by steam and electricity, and water, and the mechanical forces, share with man the creative omnipotence. Shall England cross half the globe to check the eastern march of her new-born civilisation? I have spoken to England, not as an enemy, but as a friend. For her own sake, I would have her be true to herself. If England would preserve cotton for her millions of operatives, let her join in putting down the rebellion. Her interference in defence of the rebels of the South will force us to do that which would be a calamity to us as well as to them—at a blow to destroy slavery for ever. The interest of England and France lies in the same

direction—in the preservation of the Union, and the making successful rebellion impossible. Especially does France find safety in our unity and prosperity—for between us there is no antagonism whatever. We want her silks, her brandies, her wines, her porcelains, her cloths, her finer cottons—her thousand articles of unequalled taste. She wants our tobacco, our meats, our grains, and all that; while she will not envy us the prosperity of our ruder manufactures, which put money in our purse, and make us able to purchase all that she has to sell us.

The Hon. A. Bullinghame, American Minister to the Court of Vienna, also talked big. It seems to me (said this orator), since I have been here, that I have received the impression—I cannot tell whence or why—certainly not from anything I have read or heard—surely not from anything derived from the reticent ruler of this gallant people—that the feeling which swayed the French and our fathers still survives. It seems to me that they do not mock at us in our supposed calamity, that they do not misrepresent us in their press, that they do not speak of "belligerent rights" in such a way as to leave us to infer that they would make merchandise of our misfortunes, and open all their ports to the pirates' prize. I make not these distant allusions to deepen your regards on the one hand, or to rouse your resentment against a kindred people on the other. I accuse not the Saxon heart. I know the heart of old England is sound. But, as an American, I cannot be indifferent to the language of a portion of the English press, nor to the language of a few of England's statesmen. I know, as my friend Mr. Clay has said, that we have derived our language, literature, and laws from them. No man bends lower than I do to her majestic antecedents, but I must be permitted to regret the attitude in which she has been placed by those who assume to give expression to her sentiments. This I will say—ever mindful of the ties of consanguinity which others seem to have forgotten—that, when a generous people has blotted from its memory the resentful recollections of two wars, it is neither kind nor wise to rouse them again with tenfold rancour. And this I will further say, that, whoever is for or against us, we will, in the language of

our distinguished friend Mr. Dayton, "settle our own affairs in our own way." We will put down rebellion on our own soil, and shall reserve a quick hand and a dauntless heart for whoever, for whatever cause, shall be found in complicity with the most causeless revolt that ever lifted its audacious hand against a noble Government and a generous civilisation.

As for the contest itself:—

The contest is not between two parties equally divided, as some suppose it to be, for political power; but it is a great struggle for principles, for the integrity of our society and government, between the highest civilisation on the one hand and the blackest barbarism on the other. It is not a contest between sections. On the one side, as has been stated, are twenty millions crystallised into one great fighting mass, and in sympathy with these are millions in the South who are in the thrall of a conspiracy which has taken them by surprise. And against this are a few daring men, who, struggling against the holiest feelings of the human heart, against a Government which they have never felt but in the blessings it conferred, lead on the fanatical and the ignorant, made so by the bad system they would establish, men whose strength was in the political power they derived from slavery as a subtle element in the Government, but now weak in the quality and force on which they rely, without men, without money, without credit, dependent for the food they eat and the clothing they wear on those they assail, without a ship, without a sailor, who cannot make a sword or a musket, who have no flag which a Feejee Islander ought to respect; and these men hurl themselves against the prejudices, and patriotism, and memories, and hopes, and numbers, and civilisation of the American people. They shall fail, and their memories rot! I am sorry for the innocent, who must suffer for their guilt. The people were merciful and the Government forbearing. It was not until fortress after fortress was taken, outrage after outrage committed, hospitals sacked, and the poor and the sick turned out into a desolate world, and a fort with its famishing garrison reduced, that the people sprung to arms for the Government they loved; and there has not been, in ancient or modern times, such a rising of the people. On every hill they rose, and in every valley and every mountain

pass formed armies which would gladden the eye of any Napoleon, and are moving with irresistible force to crush the rebellion. And, without using the language of menace, if there is any body who wishes well to society and the human race, let him see to it that he is not brought within the sphere of the resentment of this roused nationality and haughty patriotism.

With a tremendous effort of eloquence, in which "the beautiful banner of his country unfurled in the beams of the setting sun" of course appeared, the orator concluded. Then spoke Colonel Fremont in a similar strain:—

A few days back our honoured flag was trailing in the dust at the foot of an insistent foe; at present its stars are refulgent from a thousand heights, swarming with brave hearts and strong arms in its defence. We drink to them to-day, our brave and loyal countrymen. Faithfully, too, have our scattered people responded to them, from Italy, from England, and from France. Well have they shown they, too, can cross the seas and change their skies, and never change their hearts. I am glad that a happy chance has brought me to participate with you here on this occasion. Here in this splendid capital of a great nation, where near by us the same tombstone records the blended names of Washington and Lafayette, I feel that I breathe a sympathetic air. France is progress, and I am happy to believe that here we shall not see a people false to their traditional policy. From here we shall see no strong hand stretched out to arrest the march of civilisation, and aid in throwing back a continent into barbarism. We expect nowhere active co-operation, but we look for the sympathy which the world gives to a good cause. We are willing to work out our own destiny, and make our own history. We have deprecated this war, fratricidal and abominable; most gladly would we welcome back our people if they would return to their allegiance. We would bury, deep as the ocean, the hasty anger which their partricial conduct provoked. But they must return at once to their allegiance. We shall not permit them to dishonour our flag and desecrate our sacred graves. They cannot be permitted to dismember our country and destroy our nationality. We shall maintain these in their fullest integrity, in the face of every evil and at every hazard. Above every consideration is our country—as we have learnt to love it—one and indivisible—now and for ever, and so we will maintain it. We will do our duty loyally, and we will make no compromise with treason, and no surrender to rebellion.

INNER LIFE OF THE HOUSE OF COMMONS.—NO. 162.

THE GREAT DEBATE.

WE have this week to bring before our readers the great debate and its results. But first a word or two by way of preface to make the whole subject intelligible. Before the Whitsuntide holidays it was known that there would be one more stern battle upon the Budget; but there was little or no apprehension as to the result. The Government in a pitched, fair, and open fight, when the question was tea or paper, had beaten the Opposition by a majority of 18; and upon the question of paper or nothing there could be no reasonable doubt that her Majesty's Ministers would achieve a still greater victory. The proposition to substitute tea for paper was an alluring one, and fascinated and drew off a few of the Liberal members—Colonel Coke, of the old Whig Norfolk family, to wit; Lord Edward Howard, &c. These, however, it was deemed certain, would in the next fight return to their allegiance; and then further, in the first battle the Liberals were unfortunate. Several of their men were retained at home by domestic affliction, and could not get pairs—Lord Ashley, for example, who was ill, and Mr. Grenfell, who was anxiously watching a dying son. And so, on the whole, the Liberals were quite easy about the result of the next battle. It would be a final protest on the part of the Conservatives, but nothing more. But just before the recess there came that Irish mutiny which we noticed in our last, and when we reassembled all was changed. The Liberals were anxious and almost hopeless; the Conservatives were hopeful and almost confident. "The Irish Liberals," they said, "number some fifteen or twenty votes. If these all come over, and our own fellows stand firm, we shall win. Shoulder to shoulder, oh ye Conservatives! The time is come; let us go in and win." This, then, was the state of things when the House assembled on Monday week when the great fight began. The Conservatives were elated; a dark cloud hung over the prospects of the Liberals; and there can be no doubt now that if the House had gone to a division on Monday the Government would have been defeated. The Conservatives, knowing their power, of course pressed for a division. "The noble Lord," said Disraeli, "has hitherto twitted us with causing delay, and now we are anxious to divide he asks for postponement." Very pertinent this, no doubt; but the noble Lord stood to his ground, notwithstanding these taunts, and the debate was adjourned. "When there is a dangerous political row," that wily old politician Lord Melbourne used to say, "postpone the question. Postponement cannot do harm; it may do good." Lord Palmerston, who is as knowing a tactician as ever Melbourne was, adopted this policy.

THURSDAY.

And it succeeded. The one intervening day had worked wonders. The wrath of the Irishmen had somewhat subsided. They had looked into the gulf of dissolution, calculated cost and chances, and had begun to hesitate to take the fatal leap. Certain Conservative gentlemen, too, had reflected; and, further, the Liberal ranks had solidified and become more compact; and so when the House met on Thursday the Ministers' prospects had decidedly improved. Still there was no certainty. A morning paper has said that the result of the division was accurately foretold some hours before it was proclaimed. We venture, however, to contradict this, and to assert confidently that ten minutes before the door was shut the Ministerial whips had scarcely a hope left of victory; that it was not until it had been ascertained that certain Irish members and a number of Conservative gentlemen had left the House just before the doors closed that the hopes of the Government whips revived; and that up to the last—even to the moment when the tellers delivered in their numbers—the victory was uncertain. Usually, the whips on both sides can tell pretty accurately what, and with certainty on which side, the majority will be; but on this occasion the Irish mutiny had so broken in upon and confused all calculation that to the very last the most sagacious and experienced tacticians were all abroad. And we further affirm that during the whole of the evening, till the bells rang and the doors closed, the odds were in favour of the Opposition.

LORD JOHN RUSSELL'S SPEECH.

It is worth while to stop for a time to give a passing notice of the speech of Lord John Russell, for it was a very effective one, and upon it hung important results. It will be remembered that on the morning of the day on which the great question was to be settled there appeared in the *Times* a most astounding announcement to the effect that the quarrel between the Irish members and the Government had been patched up by the offer of £36,000 as a sop to the Galway Company; in short, that the Irish were to be bribed to return to their allegiance. Now, the effect of this announcement was twofold. It tended very much, of course, at first, to pacify the mutinous Irish, to damp down the conflagration, and generally, as far as they were concerned, to make things pleasant. But, on the other hand, great was the indignation which it blew up in the ranks of the independent Liberals. "What!" said they, "is the Government about to buy a victory? Then we shall know what to do." And there can be no doubt that if this report had turned out to be true a sufficient number of independent Liberals would have marched out of the House and left the Government in the lurch. But the report was not true—it had, indeed, in it not a scintilla of truth; and it was left to Lord John to contradict the falsehood. An attempt had been made to draw Lord Palmerston upon this subject before the debate began—Mr. Lanigan put a question to the noble Lord to that effect—but he got little for his pains. Then, again, another Irish member, Mr. Beamish, put the question point blank. "Are we to understand that the subsidy to the Galway line is to be withdrawn?" But the noble Lord refused to be explicit, and in the report in question said nothing. "A more rapid communication with America was desirable. Ireland was the part of the United Kingdom with which that communication could be best

established. In establishing that communication public competition would be resorted to, &c." Now, the reason why the noble Lord was not more explicit was probably that it was not upon the arranged programme. Lord John Russell was to make the announcement, and with the noble Lord's part in the performance the Premier would not, of course, interfere. And so, after Mr. Disraeli sat down, Lord John Russell rose. It was expected that Mr. Cobden would be the next speaker. A rumour to this effect had gone forth, and consequently the House was very full at the time; but Lord John rose, and, of course, Mr. Cobden kept his seat; for it is part of the etiquette of the House always to give precedence to a Cabinet Minister. Lord John's manner of addressing the House is usually cold, dull, and unattractive. There is always good stuff in his speeches if you will but listen—sound reasoning expressed in clear language, and based upon vast knowledge. In short, Lord John is unquestionably an able man; but he never was an orator, and, as we have said, his manner is generally cold and unimpressive. But there have been occasions when the ice breaks up—when his natural coldness gives way to fervour—and then the noble Lord can be impassioned, emphatic, and effective. He was so when he spoke upon the Chinese question in 1857, as we well remember; and he was so on this occasion. Indeed, we could see that he meant to be so when he rose, for, instead of rising languidly, he sprang to his feet suddenly; and, instead of beginning in his usual low tone of voice and indifferent manner, he pitched his voice at a high key, turned round, with his back somewhat towards the Speaker, so as well to front the House, and folded his arms across his breast, as his manner is when he has something important to say and means to say it with energy and power. The question before the House was the paper duty; but there was a preliminary question, to wit, the Galway contract business and the scandalous report in the *Times*, which had first to be settled; and, as soon as it became clear that Lord John had an announcement to make upon this matter, there was at once silence. Wandering members slipped down into seats, every whisper was hushed, and every eye was fixed upon the noble Lord. He did not leave the House long in doubt as to the tenor of his message, but at once dashed in *medias res*; and we shall not soon forget the effect which was produced by his short, compressed, and ringing sentences. As soon as it became known what was the real state of the case, the noble Lord was constantly interrupted by cheers; and when he came to that novel passage, "It would be better that ten Ministries should resign, and that the House should be ten times dissolved, than that such a stain should rest upon the character of a Ministry," there came forth such a volley of cheers, so loud, so long, so enthusiastic, that when the echo of it rang through the outer lobby the crowd there were in the utmost excitement, and thought that, by some sudden move, the battle was over and the victory won. Lord John then proceeded to deliver a long and able speech upon the proper question before the House, but the interest was gone. The Irish members, almost to a man, rose and left the House, and many of the English members also; and straightway the lobbies became like a swarm of bees; indeed, such was the excitement of the outward lobby that the officers of the House were obliged to order the police at once to clear it of all strangers.

RICHARD COBDEN.

The next important events of the evening, if we except the division and victory, were undoubtedly the appearance and speech of Mr. Cobden. It was known, as we have hinted, before dinner that Mr. Cobden meant to speak, and at ten o'clock the House had assembled in full force, and had quietly settled down to hear him. And it is not surprising that it should have been so; on the contrary, it would have been strange indeed if the English House of Commons to a man had not been anxious to welcome back after so long an absence and to hear Richard Cobden; for even those who do not believe in him as a statesman must long since have settled that he is one of the ablest men in the House and one of its brightest ornaments. Whilst his friends and admirers would of course be rejoiced once more to listen to the well-known voice, and to greet with enthusiasm the reappearance of a man who has done so much to carry out their principles, and for the welfare, as they believe, of their country and the world at large. And surely in this year 1861 every Englishman ought to feel gratitude to this illustrious man; for, setting aside for the present the French Treaty, which is too new yet to be appreciated as it ought to be and will be, was it not in a great measure to the untiring labours of this man and his great abilities that we were saved from scarcity and famine during the past year? In years long gone by, as we too well remember, when bad harvests came, and the fruits of the earth, by blight, or flood, or drought, perished, bread rose to a frightful price; artisans were thrown out of employ by thousands and assembled in tumultuous, threatening crowds in our streets, with the sad alternative before them of starving on the spot with their wives and children, or madly rushing to certain destruction upon the military who were set to guard them. But last year, though our harvests were in a great measure unproductive—fell, indeed, to something little more than half the usual produce—we had no famine, but little diminution of employment, no tumultuous assemblages, and, indeed, comparatively little distress. And why was this so? The answer is or was in everybody's mouth. The corn laws are repealed. When there was scarcity here we were at liberty to avail ourselves of the plenty elsewhere. In short, we had free trade. And here space fails, and we must perforce close our notice of Mr. Cobden, except to say that his speech was in all respects worthy of the man. For two years he has been out of our sight, but he has lost none of his old power—"his power of compressed, effective, and perspicuous argument." This paper-duty question has been so talked about, and knocked about, and ventilated that we had thought that no man living could throw new light upon it, but in the hands of Mr. Cobden it appeared in quite a new phase. But thus it is always when a master comes to a discussion.

DIVISION.

And now we come to the great event. It was one o'clock. For nine hours the debate had lasted; for nine hours the whips had with unprecedented ardour exercised their craft; for nine hours all had been sedulously watched to discover who went in, but notwithstanding this all calculation was at fault. Indeed, how could it be otherwise so long as the Irish members were on the wing and would not settle down, and so long as some dozen English Conservatives had not shown? "Will these latter come or not?" "On which side will the Irish Liberals vote?" These were the questions which agitated the whips. At last, however, the great important moment, big with fate, arrived. "See, Lord Palmerston is down!" "The Chairman is up!" "Division!" shouts the doorkeeper. The bells ring, and in one long continuous stream the members pour in. And now the questions "Who will go in?" and "Who will stop out?" become more important than ever. If those Conservatives who have not hitherto shown suddenly rush up, and if those discontented Irishmen all enter, the thing is settled—the Government have lost. But if, on the other hand, any considerable number of either stop out, there is hope. Meanwhile the bells continue ringing, and the two minutes, slowly as it seems, run on. At last, bang goes the door—"Locked!" shouts the doorkeeper, and thus far the question is settled. All are in that meant to go in; all who are out must stop out. But still all was uncertainty. "How will it be?" said we to a notable Liberal calculator in these matters. He shook his head despondingly, and replied, "I am afraid we have lost." "But there are several Irishmen outside, and certainly a dozen Conservatives." "Is that so?" he asked, brightening up, "then there is a chance." And now let us adjourn to the gallery, and see what is going on inside. When we arrived there intense was the excitement, for the division was nearly over. The Ayes were all in; the

Noes appeared to be still coming, and from this fact it was argued for the instant that the Ayes had lost. "See," said one, "the Ayes are in first, the Government has lost." "No! here come the tellers of the Noes as well. By Jove, it is a close run!" replied another. And it was the fact that almost at the same moment the tellers of both lobbies marched to the table. And now, who will take the paper. "Why, Brand seems to be moving to the left. What then! has he lost? No; look! he is coming back. By George, he has got the paper—the Government has won! Fifteen majority!" A ringing cheer broke forth from the Liberal phalanx; and, like an electric current, the news flashed through the lobby down the corridors and into Westminster Hall. And as we passed the telegraph-offices in the central hall, on our way home, we learned by the clicking of the machines that the intelligence was flying away with the speed of lightning to all parts of the kingdom; and before we laid our heads upon the pillow industrious compositors at Manchester, Liverpool, Edinburgh, and Dublin were "setting up" the news for the morning papers.

Imperial Parliament.

FRIDAY, MAY 31.
HOUSE OF LORDS.

SALMON.

The Earl of MALMESBURY called attention to the recommendations of the Commissioners on Salmon Fisheries in England, pointing out the best modes of preserving and extending those fisheries.

Earl GRANVILLE, admitting the importance of the subject, said that a bill would be introduced with regard to it in the other House.

COTTON.

The Marquis of TWEEDDALE called attention to the cultivation of cotton in India, presented a petition from the Manchester and Glasgow Cotton Association, and urged the expediency of encouraging that produce, looking to the state of things in America.

Lord HARRIS stated that, as the question seemed to be whether the merchants of this country would get sufficient security if they advanced money to promote the growth of cotton in India, he believed they might at present safely do so.

Lord Brougham and the Earl of Ellenborough urged the necessity of encouraging the product of cotton in India.

Earl DE GREY and RIPLEY said that steps had been taken to send agents to the cotton districts with a view to opening the markets; and, as regarded means of transit, the Government did not intend to suspend the railway works in progress.

HOUSE OF COMMONS.

THE TAEPINGS AND OUR CHINA TRADE.

Mr. DUNLOP moved an Address to her Majesty to instruct her representative in China to afford to British subjects equal facilities for commercial intercourse, and to maintain a friendly understanding for the purposes of trade with the two contending parties in that empire, in the exercise of an impartial neutrality between them. He entered upon a rather long narrative of recent transactions in China, in connection with the Imperial authorities and those representing the Taepings, insisting upon the prudence as well as justice of observing a strict neutrality in civil and military matters towards both.

The motion was seconded by Mr. BAXTER, who had been convinced, he said, on a careful consideration of the papers on this subject, that we had not pursued, and were not pursuing, a system of perfect neutrality. The character of the Taepings had, he contended, been misrepresented and unjustly depreciated.

Lord J. RUSSELL, observing that it would have been better to wait till further papers were before the House, said the question was, not what had occurred three years ago, but the actual state of affairs, which was totally different. Sir J. Hope had ascended the Yang-Tze-Kiang, and at Nankin the British commanders had entered into an arrangement with the Taeping authorities, and had engaged to observe neutrality in the contest between them and the Imperialists. The official despatches lately received contained more correct and trustworthy narratives of facts than private letters, and they showed that we were pursuing our proper business in China—to promote our trade and to maintain a neutral attitude and a friendly intercourse with both parties.

Mr. BUCHANAN, in supporting the motion, gave a historical sketch of the rebellion in China, and a description of the reigning dynasty, which he considered effete, and with which it was unwise for us to connect ourselves, as he maintained we had done. He condemned the system under which our China trade was carried on.

Mr. S. FITZGERALD called attention to circumstances which he thought compromised our neutrality in some of the Chinese ports.

Lord PALMERSTON said it would be seen by the further papers that we were observing the strictest neutrality, and had obtained from the Taeping authorities security that our commerce should not be interrupted. As the policy we were pursuing was to maintain a strictly *bona fide* neutrality, this disposed of a great portion of the objections of Mr. Dunlop. With regard to the collection of the customs duties in China by British agents, he contended that this was no infringement of that neutrality. Some of the circumstances mentioned by Mr. Fitzgerald were not known to the Government, and deserved inquiry.

Mr. J. WHITE pointed out how the trade arrangements in China were calculated to produce ill effects to our commerce. He thought the public should be disabused as to the supposed honesty and good intentions of the Taepings.

Colonel SYKES made a few observations.

The motion was then withdrawn.

AN IRISH SQUABBLE.

Mr. McMAHON called attention to the circumstances under which the barony of Geashill, in the King's county, was obliged to pay £300 damages for the alleged malicious burning of an outhouse belonging to a Mr. Trenh, and asked why no steps had been taken to prosecute the offender?

Mr. HENNESSY made a counter-statement of the case, which, he said, as represented by Mr. McMahon, was utterly fallacious.

The discussion was continued by Mr. O'Brien, Mr. Brady, and Lord Naas, who protested against the proceeding of Mr. McMahon as unfair and improper.

Mr. CARDWELL stated that the damages in question were duly assessed. He was not prepared to prevent the police taking steps to bring offenders to justice; and when the person implicated was discovered he would be prosecuted.

THE FRENCH NAVY.

Sir J. PAKINGTON called attention to the comparative progress of England and France in the construction of armour-covered ships; and he said that Admiral Elliot had recently visited all the naval ports of France except Toulon, and from that gentleman he had received information that there were of iron-coated ships there no less than twelve in different states of preparation; ten of them were larger than *La Gloire*, and improvements on her. With that vessel there were thirteen frigates; besides which there were two line-of-battle ships—two-deckers—in tonnage little short of the *Warrior*, and could carry 100 guns. They were to be launched in June next. These fifteen ships were to be added to four iron-covered batteries and five gun-boats, making twenty-four armour-covered ships, exclusive of the floating batteries which were used in the Russian War. In England there were not more than six ships of this kind built or building. The *Warrior* and the *Black Prince* were only to carry forty guns, and, though they would be faster than the French vessels, they were not so well covered with armour. The utmost efforts were being made in French yards to press on their armour-ships, which were building. Whatever the motives of France were, the practical result was that England was becoming the second maritime Power in Europe. He asked what were the intentions of the Government on this subject?

Admiral WALCOTT stated that he had received the same information from Admiral Elliot, who told him that he laid it before the First Lord of the Admiralty.

Mr. LINDSAY thought that Sir J. Pakington would have done better by communicating his information privately to the Government. The statement he had made would do no good, but was likely to do great injury. He (Mr. Lindsay) had taken the greatest pains to obtain the most correct accounts of the state of the French Navy, having had personal communication upon the subject with the Minister of Marine at Paris, and they were at variance with the information given to Sir J. Pakington. Mr. Lindsay's comparison of the iron-cased fleets of the two countries made it appear that we were before the French.

Sir J. ELPHINSTONE believed that the Government could, from their own information, confirm the report of Admiral Elliot, and thought it behoved them to investigate the subject of iron ships without delay.

Mr. DALOGLAHL suggested that a Committee of two or three persons might be sent to inspect the French dockyards, and he was sure the French Government would give them every facility.

Lord C. PAGET said it was true that the French were making great progress in the building of iron-cased ships, and that within the last two months they had laid down several new ones. But they were not making any undue exertions, though constantly employed upon this new class of vessels. The French vessels, however, were not of the same size or power as ours. Although he thought it better not to enter much into details upon this sub

ject, he might say that the Government had determined to build five iron-cased ships of a very powerful class.

GENERAL EDEN'S APPOINTMENT.

Mr. CONINGHAM inquired upon what principle the appointments of Colonels of regiments were made, with especial reference to the case of General Eden?

Mr. T. G. Baring said that General Eden was not a Guards officer; he served in the West Indies, and had been passed over for a regiment by several junior officers who had seen more service in the field than he had. It was the rule that officers should not be passed over entirely, but that a preference should be given to those who had distinguished themselves in the field.

THE ARMY.

Mr. WILLIAMS complained that £800,000 more than had been voted was expended on the Army in 1859-60.

After some conversation, the House went into Committee on the Army Estimates, beginning with the vote for warlike stores.

Mr. T. G. Baring, replying to Sir F. Smith, said that there would be shortly another trial between the Enfield and Whitworth rifles.

Colonel DICKSON moved to reduce the vote by £112,493; but after debate the amendment was not pressed; and the vote was agreed to.

The House adjourned at about two o'clock.

MONDAY, JUNE 3. HOUSE OF LORDS.

THE GALWAY CONTRACT.

The Marquis of NORMANBY, in moving for correspondence between the Irish Government and the Atlantic Royal Mail Steam-packet Company, took occasion to vindicate the Irish members from the imputation of having bartered their votes on the Budget on account of the rescinding of the contract, and urged that this had been a matter which had raised a strong feeling in Ireland, on account of the harsh conduct of the Government on a question of vital importance to that country.

Earl GRANVILLE, replying to the strictures of the noble Marquis in reference to observations made on the Irish members, said he did not believe that he was authorised to interfere on their behalf any more than Father Daly was. In regard to the Galway contract, the Government had acted leniently rather than otherwise; and, while deprecating discussion on the subject until the papers were produced, he admitted the duty of the Government to give every consideration to the question of mail and telegraphic establishments in Ireland.

Lord EGLINTON said that, had it been true that the Conservative Government, in granting the Galway contract, had been influenced by party motives, such a policy could not have been worse than throwing away £1,300,000 in order to conciliate Mr. Bright, his following, and the penny newspapers. He, however, denied that the contract originated from party motives, and declared himself entirely responsible for having been the first mover of it, being actuated solely by the hope of promoting the welfare of Ireland, and, indirectly, of the United Kingdom.

Lord CLANRICARDE thought that Lord Derby's Government had been most unjustly attacked for having concluded the Galway contract. The fact was, that Galway was admirably adapted for a packet station, and was the most direct means of communication with North America. He lamented that so excellent a contract had been rescinded, and there was now no steam communication between North America and the west of Ireland.

Lord STANLEY of ALDERLEY said that the objection to the Galway contract was, not that it had been given to Ireland, but that it was made, contrary to the universal practice, without competition. Then came the question whether it had been properly performed, and in the opinion of the authorities it had been so ill performed that no advantage was gained in the communication with America; and, after every possible indulgence had been granted to the company, the Government felt bound to rescind the contract.

Lord BROUGHAM thought that, as long as the statements made in the other House of Parliament concerning Father Daly's proposals were not sifted, it would be impossible to eradicate the public impression that the Irish members had made corrupt overtures to the Government. He thought the best course to adopt would be to examine Father Daly at the bar of the House of Commons with regard to his assertion that he represented a portion of the Irish representatives.

After a few remarks from Lords Leitrim, Clancarty, Donoughmore, and Lord Normanby in reply, the motion was withdrawn.

HOUSE OF COMMONS.

AMERICAN PRIVATEERING.

Lord J. RUSSELL said, in answer to Mr. W. R. Forster, the whole matter of privateering by the States of America had been considered by the Government; and orders had been given to interdictal privateers and vessels of war of those States from entering with prizes the ports or harbours of the United Kingdom of Great Britain and Ireland, and her dependencies. He had been in communication with France on the subject; and it was understood that France would act according to her own laws, which only allowed privateers with prizes to remain in her ports for twenty-four hours, and did not permit them to sell their prizes or dispose of their cargoes.

INCOME TAX.—TRADE.

On the order for the third reading of the Customs and Inland Revenue Bill,

Sir W. JOLLIFFE made some remarks upon the mode of collecting the income tax.

Mr. BAILLIE entered into calculations to show that the estimated surplus, even if it had ever existed, had already disappeared, owing to new charges, and contended that disturbing causes affecting the cotton trade would materially reduce the revenue for the current year.

The CHANCELLOR of the EXCHEQUER declined to follow Mr. Baillie into the question of the surplus, except to generally deny that £450,000 had been added to the charge for the year since the surplus had been fixed at £400,000; but even if that were the case it would have been met by the fact that in the first eight weeks of the present financial year, as compared with the last, there had been an increase of £500,000 in the revenue from customs, excise, and stamps. He contended there was no hardship or inconvenience in the collection of the income tax quarterly, while there was a great political advantage in being able to curtail the arrears of a tax which was always lagging in its collection.

Mr. BENTINCK urged that the state of things in America would soon be such as to prevent Lord Palmerston answering a question he (Mr. Bentinck) had twice put to him, and would have to put again, as to any anticipated increase in the expenditure of this country, in the confident manner he had hitherto done.

After some observations from Mr. Crawford, Sir S. Northcote, Mr. Westhead, Mr. Hennessy (on Irish butter), and Mr. Henley (expressing himself satisfied with the statement of Mr. Gladstone as to the quarterly payment of the income tax),

The bill was read a third time and passed amidst cheers.

INDIAN FINANCE.

Sir C. WOOD, in Committee of the whole House, moved that it is expedient to enable the Secretary for India to raise money for the service of the Government of India. Declining to go into the general question of Indian finance, except to say that Mr. Laing had made his financial statement in India, and that it was a satisfactory one, he proceeded to say that when he last addressed the House on this subject he said that the anticipated deficit was £5,000,000, and that he hoped in another year there would be none, owing to reduction of expenditure and increased taxation, and every account he had since received had justified that statement. But in this estimate he reckoned on the returns of the existing taxes being kept up; and the unforeseen circumstance of a famine had tended towards a falling off in that respect; and there was a probability of a deficit of £2,000,000 at the very worst; while it was still more probable that there would be not even such a result as that, and that the income and expenditure would be balanced towards the end of the year. But in the beginning of the year there was a pressure for ready money in India, and he had been obliged to remit £1,000,000 in silver to meet that pressure. This diminished the resources provided for the home expenditure, and the only means he had of supplying the necessary expenses at home was by using the sums paid in for Indian railroads or by loan. In the beginning of the year it was anticipated that the payment at home for railroads would have been £7,000,000, and the expenditure on works in India about the same; whereas the expenditure had been above £8,000,000, and the payments at home only £6,000,000 and the home Government had been obliged to make up the difference. He had been disappointed in payments for the railways, and it was necessary to provide money to meet the demands of the home expenditure, which was coming due. For this purpose he proposed to raise a loan of £4,000,000. Referring to the railways in India, he stated the amount guaranteed by the Government, and said that, so far as those which were in progress were concerned, it was desirable to finish them as soon as possible, the charge for interest to the Government being no less than £2,000,000 a year. The expenditure for railways for this year would be £6,000,000. The commencement of some lines would be postponed. It would require £21,000,000 or £23,000,000 to be raised for the ultimate completion of all the projected railways in India for which the Government would be responsible.

Mr. BAZLEY urged the necessity of developing the resources of India; and in reference to cotton showed that that product was not indigenous to America, or cultivated by aboriginal labour, and a similar development might be effected in India.

Lord STANLEY pointed out that it was on reduction in military expenditure in India that the balancing revenue and receipts mainly depended, and

he was glad to hear that that reduction was going on. As to pressing on railroads and other works vigorously, there was no alternative but to do so or to let them drop altogether. As to the amount of the proposed loan, the resolution did not pledge the House to that, and it might be considered on a future occasion.

Mr. J. B. SMITH urged the opening of the River Godavery, which ran through the finest cotton district in India, and would afford that cheap transit which was indispensable to a supply of cotton to this country.

Mr. Crawford, Mr. Smollett, Mr. Danby Seymour, and Colonel Sykes continued the debate, which took a wide range over Indian affairs generally. The resolution was agreed to.

SUPPLY.—THE LATE ADMIRAL DUNDAS.

Lord PALMERSTON, in moving that the House go into Committee of Supply, took the opportunity of expressing the great regret of the Government at the loss of the country had sustained by the sudden death of Vice-Admiral Sir R. Dundas.

Sir J. Pakington, Admiral Duncombe, Sir M. Seymour, and Admiral Walcott spoke in a similar strain.

The House then went into Committee of Supply on the Navy Estimates, resuming at the vote for naval stores.

Mr. LINDSAY moved the reduction of the item of £500,000 for the purchase of steam machinery by £100,000.

A discussion ensued, in the course of which

Lord PALMERSTON stated that the Government had determined to build five additional iron-coated ships.

This amendment was withdrawn, and

Mr. LINDSAY moved to reduce the vote by £60,000 for engines for two troop-ships, and £10,000 for two troop-ships.

On a division, the amendment was lost by 85 to 68.

The vote was then agreed to.

The other business was then gone through, and the House adjourned at a late hour.

TUESDAY, JUNE 4. HOUSE OF LORDS.

THE GALWAY CONTRACT.

Lord CLANRICARDE made a personal statement on behalf of Father Daly in regard to what had passed between him and Lord Palmerston in relation to the Galway contract. The phrase of "taking action" arose from a question put to Father Daly by Lord Palmerston, and his reply meant that he believed that the Irish people would deal with the Government as the Government dealt with the Irish people. Father Daly denied that he made any corrupt offer, and said that he acted without authority from the Irish members.

Lord BROUGHAM said he had lived too long in the world to believe that what Father Daly had said to Lord Palmerston was without meaning or authority.

The subject then dropped. Their Lordships adjourned at an early hour.

HOUSE OF COMMONS.

THE GALWAY CONTRACT.

The Lord Mayor of Dublin, accompanied by a deputation of the Corporation, in their robes, appeared at the bar, and presented a petition praying that the subsidy to the Galway Packet Company might be restored.

MAYNOOTH.

Mr. WHALLEY moved that the House do resolve itself into a Committee to consider the Acts for the endowment of the College of Maynooth, with a view to the withdrawal of any endowment out of the Consolidated Fund, due regard being to vested rights and interests.

Sir W. VERNER seconded the motion.

Mr. DIGBY SKYMOUR moved as an amendment, after the words "Consolidated Fund," to insert "and also to consider the expediency of withdrawing all other State endowments and grants for ecclesiastical and religious purposes in Great Britain and Ireland."

Mr. CARDWELL said that he gathered that the House was unwilling to continue a discussion the object of which was to reopen a subject which, by common consent, had been closed; and he regretted that after it had passed from the hands of Mr. Spooner any other member had deemed it advisable to take it up. The report of a commission had exonerated the teaching of Maynooth from any tendency to disloyalty, and he could himself bear testimony to the good conduct of the pupils.

Mr. SPOONER denied that he had withdrawn from the conduct of this question because it had been disposed of by Parliament, as, if his health and strength permitted, he would still have continued to protest against this grant; nor must it be supposed that the Protestant feeling against it was dead.

Mr. SOMES attempted to address the House, but gave way to the interruption he met with.

Mr. NEWDEGATE, although he had supported a motion like this for sixteen years, had refused to bring it forward himself. The amendment was inconsequential—indeed monstrous—as it proposed, because ultra-montane doctrines were supported by the grant to Maynooth, all other endowments were to be withdrawn. It was Protestant England alone of the nations of the earth which contributed funds to the teaching of the doctrines of the Jesuits.

After a few words from Mr. Scully, the amendment was withdrawn.

On a division the motion was lost by 191 to 114.

BARON DE BODE.

Mr. DENMAN moved for a Select Committee to consider the allegations of the petition of Baron de Bode, whose father, in 1818, was entitled to a large sum of money, representing the value of an estate in France. He being a British subject, that estate had been confiscated by the French Government as an emigrant; but in 1815 a sum of money was paid by France to the British Government for the purpose of compensation to him and other persons in the same position. In 1819 an Act was passed giving the disposal of any surplus of this money to the Lords of the Treasury, after the payment of claims duly registered, and it recited that all claims had been registered. Twenty years afterwards it was decided by the House of Lords that that Act was fatal to the Baron de Bode's claim; and if so, Parliament had done him a great wrong, which his object was to have redressed—if he could establish that his right in 1818 was clear, on the ground that the Baron de Bode was a British subject, and that his estate was unduly confiscated within the meaning of the treaty under which compensation was to be granted.

The ATTORNEY-GENERAL stated that this subject had been brought forward on numerous occasions, and as often rejected, during the last thirty years, and he asked what limit was to be put to this species of appeal to the House? The hon. and learned gentleman contended that, as between France and England, the Baron de Bode was not a British subject, and the sum said to be available had been dispersed under the provisions of an Act of Parliament. He opposed the motion.

Mr. Malins having supported the motion, Lord PALMERSTON opposed it, urging that the whole question turned on whether the claimant was a British subject; and all the evidence showed that he was essentially a subject of France; and his property was confiscated because as a Frenchman he quitted France and joined a foreign army invading his own country.

Sir G. BOWYER quoted the opinion of Sir Samuel Romilly in favour of the Baron de Bode being essentially an English subject.

Mr. GLADSTONE briefly controverted the arguments of the previous speaker, and pointed out the danger and difficulty which would arise from reopening the question, which had long been practically settled.

Mr. B. COCHRANE asked if the Chancellor of the Exchequer did not hold a sum of money, being the surplus of the sum paid by the French Government?

Mr. GLADSTONE said it was not the case.

On a division the motion was carried (against the Government) by 134 to 112.

WEDNESDAY, JUNE 5.

HOUSE OF COMMONS.

FRIENDLY SOCIETIES.

The Friendly and Assurance Societies Bill, the object of which is to compel these societies to make up their accounts every year and to furnish each shareholder with a copy, was read a second time.

OATHS IN CRIMINAL PROCEEDINGS.

Mr. LOCKE moved the second reading of the Criminal Proceedings Oath Relief Bill, the object of which is to enable persons who have scruples against taking oaths to make affirmation by leave of the Judge, assimilating the practice of the criminal to the civil courts in this respect.

Mr. SOTHERON ESTCOTE moved the adjournment of the debate.

This was withdrawn.

Mr. HENNESSY moved the rejection of the bill; but on a division the second reading was carried by 65 to 31.

THE GALWAY SQUABBLE.

On going into Committee of Supply, Colonel FRANK took the opportunity of denying the statement which had been made that on the eve of the recent division the Irish members had asked Lord Palmerston to receive a deputation of their number with a view to some intimidating action. The noble Lord stated that Mr. Daly told him that he had no authority to make such a request, but he seemed still to harbour a suspicion that that gentleman had such authority; and he had allowed Lord J. Russell to make a statement to that effect, which influenced the opinions of many gentlemen of the Opposition, and caused them to abstain from voting. On the part of the Irish members he empha-

tically denied that they had sought any interview with the noble Lord under the circumstances in question.

Lord PALMERSTON said he accepted the disclaimer of Colonel French as he had done Mr. Esmonde's. He adhered, however, to the statement he made on a former occasion, which contained, he said, a true representation of the facts. The whole blame, he added, must rest upon the Rev. Mr. Daly for his excess of zeal.

Lord NAAS denied statements which had appeared in a journal of that day, that the Galway contract was granted by Lord Dalry's Government when a general election was imminent, the fact being that the contract was signed in February and the dissolution did not take place till April, and the measure which caused it was not even introduced when the grant was made.

Colonel Dunne having spoken in the same sense,

Mr. GREGORY said Lord John Russell's indignant remarks were quite thrown away, even if they were not simulated for the occasion, and for the purpose of influencing opinions.

Sir G. C. LAWS said Lord John Russell's indignant denial was indis-

pensable.

After some remarks by Mr. Scully and The O'Donoghue the subject dropped.

A NAVAL GRIEVANCE.

Mr. B. COCHRANE moved "That the Captains of the Royal Navy who were placed on a reserved list distinguished from a retired list, on account of their having served long and well, in accordance with the orders in council of the 25th day of June, 1851, and the 30th day of January, 1856, have great reason to complain that the arrangement entered into with the Board of Admiralty has not been fairly carried out; and that the injustice with which these officers have been treated is most prejudicial to the public service."

Lord C. PAGET said that this reserved list was intended to serve a certain number of Commanders who could have no hope of active employment; and it was distinctly understood that they were not to rise simultaneously with the active list. The present Admiralty had granted these officers an increase of pay.

On a division the motion was lost by 27 to 19.

The House then went into Committee on the Navy Estimates on the last vote, that for new works, but, a quarter to six having arrived, it was not taken.

THURSDAY, JUNE 6.

HOUSE OF LORDS.

DEATH OF COUNT CAVOUR.

The Marquis of CLANRICARDE, referring to a telegram that appeared in the newspapers that afternoon, asked whether the Government had received any information confirming the report of the death of Count Cavour? Such an event, he said, must be viewed as a calamity to Europe.

Lord WODEHOUSE deeply regretted to say that a telegram had been received from our Minister at Turin announcing the death of Count Cavour at seven o'clock that morning. He concurred in the opinion on that the death of such a patriot and statesman would be regarded by the peoples of Europe generally as a most unfortunate event.

A similar opinion was expressed by Lord Brougham, the Earl of Malmesbury, the Marquis of Bath, and Lord Stratford de Redcliffe.

The Consolidated Fund (£10,000,000) Bill was read a third time and passed.

HOUSE OF COMMONS.

THE CIVIL WAR IN AMERICA.

Lord STANLEY asked Lord J. Russell whether it was true, as stated in the latest telegrams from America, that a regiment of Canadian volunteers had offered its services to the President of the United States to assist in coercing the Southern States, and that the offer had been accepted; and what steps would be taken by her Majesty's Government to prevent this violation of neutrality?

Lord J. RUSSELL said that no such report had been received at the Colonial Office, and that her Majesty's Government had not heard from any of her diplomatic agents in Canada or America that any colonial regiment of volunteers had offered their services to the United States. Adverting to the notice given a few days since by Mr. Gregory of a motion to recognise the Southern Confederacy, the noble Lord said that he could no longer urge the hon. member to postpone his motion. At the same time he felt bound to say that he did not consider it desirable that it should form the subject of discussion at present.

KENSINGTON GARDENS.

Mr. COWPER, in reply to Lord Enfield, stated that a new ride would be opened in Kensington Gardens for the use of equestrians, but that it would not cross any public footpath.

INDIA.

Sir C. WOOD obtained leave to bring in a bill to amend in certain respects the constitution of the Council of the Governor-General of India, and to authorise making laws and regulations for the Presidencies of Fort St. George and Bombay, and for other parts of her Majesty's Indian territories; also a bill for establishing high courts of judicature in India; and a bill to confirm certain appointments in India, and to amend the law concerning the civil service there.

EXCISE AND STAMPS BILL.

This bill as amended was considered, and ordered for a third reading to-morrow.

PERSECUTION OF PROTESTANTS IN SPAIN.

Lord J. RUSSELL, in reply to Sir R. Peel, said that he had taken measures to remove Mr. Gordon, the Vice-Consul at Cadiz, in consequence of his conduct in preventing the exercise of the services of the Church of England for the benefit of British Protestants there, and of having some other gentleman appointed to that office who would better consult the feelings of British Protestants in Spain.

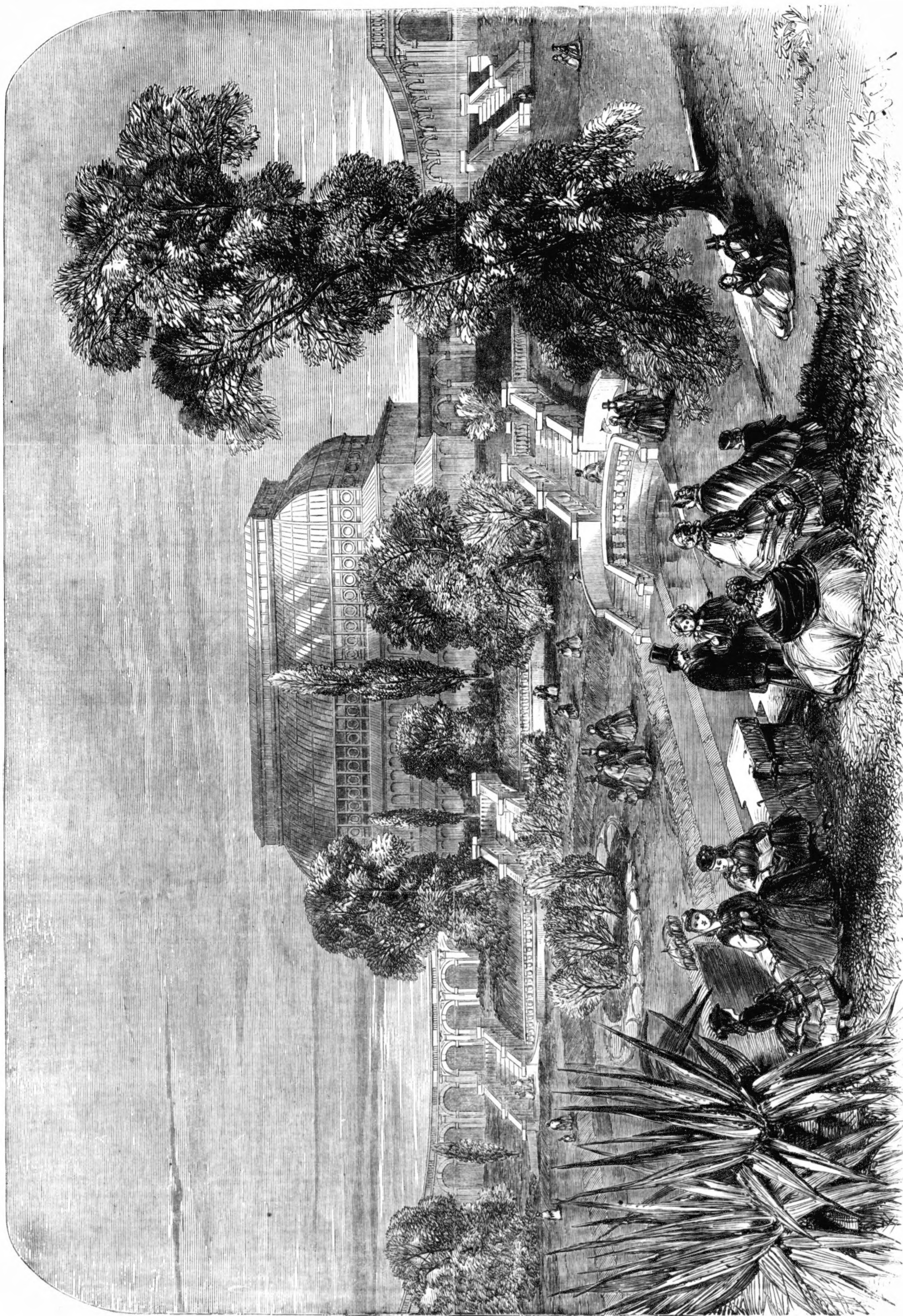
The House having gone into Committee of Supply, the remaining Navy Estimates were considered.

NEW NIGHT SERVICE TO PARIS, &c.—The South-Eastern and the Northern of France Railway Companies have organised a new second or night service, which began on the 31st ult., between London and Paris, via Folkestone and Boulogne, by the regular trains, in addition to the existing special ten-hour tidal service. This night service, occupying during the greater part of the month about sixteen hours and a half on the journey, and being first and second class, will be convenient for those who prefer the Folkestone and Boulogne route to the longer and more expensive route of the same companies by the night mail-train via Calais, which is restricted to first-class passengers. An extension of the through-ticket system of the South-Eastern Railway has just been brought into operation. In consequence of the opening of the Salzburg Railway between Munich and Vienna, passengers can be booked through, via Paris to Vienna, and also, as heretofore, via Cologne. Through tickets are now for the first time issued to Mannheim, Karlsruhe, Salzburg, Munich, Kustendje, and Constantinople, via Paris; and to Baden-Baden and Heidelberg, via Paris, as well as by the Cologne route, as formerly. The route to Constantinople, for which these tickets are available via the Danube and the Black Sea Railway, offers a reduced sea voyage of twenty-four hours. The through-ticket system of the South-Eastern Railway and the Continental railways in connection now embraces nearly every European capital.

SPEECH DAY AT ETON.—The 4th of June, since the discontinuance of Montem, has become the most important day of the Eton calendar, and, notwithstanding the threatening aspect of the weather, there was a greater attendance of nobility and gentry on this occasion than has been witnessed on any previous year. The speeches were delivered as usual in the Upper Schoolroom, where a brilliant company had assembled. In the evening there was a large assemblage of visitors in the Brocas, to witness the procession of the boats to Surley Hall.

THE FEMALE SCHOOL OF ART.—The prizes and medals of the Female School of Art were awarded on Saturday, they being distributed to the successful students at the Theatre of Practical Geology by Earl Granville. In the speech which his Lordship delivered at the close of the ceremony he remarked that it was now impossible to walk through the streets of London, to look in the shops, to see the productions of every art and manufacture, and to remember what the same articles were some years ago, without feeling convinced that these schools had done a great deal to improve the taste of the producer and the purchaser. M. Fould, whose taste and knowledge of art were great, after being some weeks in this country, stated that we had recently made great progress in the arts of design and decoration that Frenchmen would have soon to come to England to receive instruction in them.

THE EMPEROR NAPOLEON AND THE CLERGY.—The following note appears in the *Mondeur*:—"Religious questions have lately given occasion to discussions, the independence of which the Government has not thought itself able to restrain, though it all the while deprecates their excesses. These discussions tend to assume a more passionate character, and violent attacks are made every day, by means of the journals and brochures, against the Catholic clergy. The Government, whose duty it is to make religion and its ministers respected, invites the writers to the moderation which some of them have discarded, and it is resolved to procure the remission of attacks of such a nature as might degenerate into offences against the laws. Acting on communications made to him by the Minister of the Interior, M. le Garde des Sceaux has just commenced proceedings against two brochures—the one entitled 'Crimes, Offences, and Scandals amongst the Clergy in these latter Days,' and the other 'The Little Books of the Rue de Fleurus.' A prosecution has been immediately commenced against the authors of these publications."



THE NEW GARDENS OF THE ROYAL HORTICULTURAL SOCIETY AT SOUTH KENSINGTON.



THE OPENING EXHIBITION OF FLOWERS AND FRUIT IN THE GARDENS OF THE ROYAL HORTICULTURAL SOCIETY



INTERIOR OF THE CONSERVATORY IN THE GARDENS OF THE ROYAL HORTICULTURAL SOCIETY.

HORTICULTURAL SOCIETY'S NEW GROUNDS.

THE beautiful new gardens of this society at Kensington were opened on Wednesday. At the beginning of last month the site was a mere mass of excavations. The mounds for the terraces were, in some cases, only just being raised. The bricklayers and stonemasons were up to Monday week at work in the arcades. A few weeks ago, and only two or three columns marked the spot where a perfect conservatory now stands, long, wide, and lofty enough to be almost designated a little Crystal Palace. Even the excavations for the reservoirs were hardly begun; the lawns were not turfed, the ornamental parterres unattempted, the paths still ungravelled, and, in fact, scarcely marked; and the shrubberies, which are now formed of thousands of rhododendrons in every variety of bloom, were then mere heaps of planking, covered with the debris of building materials of all kinds.

Since that time such an amount of work has been accomplished that the results seem almost magical. Not that the gardens are by any means finished in all their exquisite details. The centre reservoir has merely been bricked round, and therefore only holds enough water to mark its future purpose. Only two of the trout streams on the eastern side have been completed. None of the niches for statuary have been filled, and only a few of the handsome stone and marble vases with which the piers of all the terrace balustrades will be surmounted are yet placed. The band-houses, too, are not begun; the stone steps of the terraces were represented on Wednesday week, by wooden substitutes, and of the beautifully-designed balustrade, which is hereafter to surmount almost the whole length of lofty arcade, only a few feet have been put in position as a specimen of what the general effect will ultimately be. The recesses for busts will not yet be filled; no fountains will play; and the great cascade which is to fall into the chief reservoir will not be finished for a couple of months or so. In addition to all this, also, much has to be done towards completing the ultimate colour decorations of the arcades, and above all in carving their massive stone capitals and basements, only one of each of which is now cut to show what the whole will be when finished. It is perhaps not too much to say that next year's spring will be on us before all this is effected, and before the garden, quite recovered from the severe winter and the effects of this year's transplanting, will bloom in all its splendour.

Yet, notwithstanding all these drawbacks, the grounds already look like a fairyland, and as the visitor's eye ranges over the superb diversity of lawns and shrubberies, parterres and terraces, he will not unnaturally think, when such effects are produced from little more than half-finished grounds, the coup-d'oeil which they must present when complete will be something unequalled in the history of terraced gardens. It is almost impossible to overpraise the taste and skill with which the most elegant examples of garden architecture are introduced, and the effective grouping of the different kinds of plants, interspersed with vases and statuary. The parterres, with their winding and involved paths, inlaid with various kinds of coloured stone, broken fine, are all finished, and their effect is charming, and for once surpasses the expectations formed from the pictorial design on paper. The great conservatory is also entirely finished, with its outer verandah facing the south. The whole interior of this beautiful building is painted with light, cool, neutral colours, which harmonise well with the plants it contains, and also with the light and slender proportions of the structure itself. The background of this, with its double arcade and gallery above, is one of the gems of the garden.

Wednesday's weather was not very propitious for any kind of outdoor gathering, and was but little in keeping with the gay assemblage at South Kensington, or the object which drew them together. Nevertheless, not fewer than eight or ten thousand persons thronged the gardens. To say who was there would be simply to enumerate half the names in the *Peerage and Court Guide*; and, with heavy thunderclouds lowering overhead and the lighter artillery of the skies discharging smart volleys of rain at frequent intervals all the afternoon, there was a perfectly reckless display of summer costumes. Delicately-attired beauties stood or strolled about on grassplots and terraces damp enough to give the very worms an ague—despite printed requests that visitors would confine themselves to the gravel walks. Such a request would have been warranted in the driest weather by the unfinished state of the grounds.

The conservatory and a large portion of the arcades were on Wednesday occupied by a collection of flowers and fruit, to which, it must be feared, very imperfect justice was done by the mass of spectators. The rapid influx of visitors from one o'clock till four, and their concentration upon spots from which the expected ceremonies might be observed, made a fair inspection of the show impossible.

The road from the entrance court to the conservatory was lined by the 1st Middlesex Engineers, who volunteered their services, and rendered them with perfect efficiency. The terraces of the conservatory, and the plot on which the Prince Consort was to plant a tree, were kept by the Royal Engineers attached to the South Kensington establishment, who, with the aid of the police, maintained admirable order where the pressure was greatest. Each corps had its band in attendance, besides the Coldstreams, Scots Fusiliers, and 1st Life Guards.

The signal of the arrival of the Prince Consort and other members of the Royal family was the performance by the Engineers' band of one verse of "God Save the Queen." A procession was formed, and as it moved the bands struck up the Coburg March, and did not cease till the procession halted in front of the conservatory. Then the foreman of gardeners, the foreman of works, the clerks of the works, and the contractors, forming the first four groups, filed off; while the secretary (Mr. A. Murray), the superintendent of the gardens (Mr. Eyles), the auditors, the floral, fruit, and implements committee, the works committee, and the fine-arts committee, with the Commissioners for the Exhibition of 1851, and the council and vice-presidents of the Royal Horticultural Society, arranged themselves in the principal entrance to the conservatory for the reception of their Royal guests—namely, the Prince Consort, President of the Society; the Prince of Wales, Princess Alice, Princess Helena, Princess Louise, Prince Arthur, the Duchess of Cambridge, Princess Mary, the Duke of Cambridge, Count de Fladre, and Prince Louis of Hesse.

Here the ceremonial of inauguration took place—invisible and inaudible to the great bulk of the brilliant concourse, but sufficiently well understood. Dr. Lindley, the hon. secretary to the society, stepped forward and read an address setting forth the objects and history of the society, especially since its incorporation under a new charter, the necessity for a garden in London itself, and the agreement entered into with the Commissioners, each undertaking to expend £50,000. In his reply the Prince said:—

The Commissioners of 1851, whose mission it is to encourage the arts and sciences as applied to productive industry, gladly welcome your society as one of the first of those bodies, devoted to the promotion of special branches of these arts and sciences, that has availed itself of the enlarged means of development offered by the Commissioners on their estate. They are glad to find in your present success, and in the generous support of the public, the confirmation of their belief that, in securing space on which, in union with each other, and with a systematic interchange of mutual assistance, separate societies and departments might attain to a degree of usefulness which their present confinement and isolation must materially lessen, the Commissioners had correctly appreciated the great want of the day and the requirements of the public, for whose benefit alone they should work, and by whose assistance alone they can hope to prosper.

We already see to the south, rising, as it were, by magic, the commencement of a noble work entirely the result of the voluntary efforts of that public; and this garden, itself the offspring of the Great Exhibition of 1851, will hardly be completed ere that exhibition shall have been rivalled, and, trust, even surpassed, by the beauty and success of that which we hope next year to witness.

This garden will then open an additional source of enjoyment to the thousands who may be expected to crowd the new Crystal Palace of Industry. Nay, we may hope that it will, at no distant day, form the inner court of a

vast quadrangle of public buildings, rendered easily accessible by the broad roads which will surround them—buildings where science and art may find space for development, with that air and light which are elsewhere well-nigh banished from this overgrown metropolis.

If the works before us are still incomplete this must not be attributed entirely to the short space of time allowed for their execution, or to the exhaustion of the funds set apart for them. It results also, in great measure, from a well-considered purpose on the part of the society and the Commissioners rather to present the public with a framework, to be gradually filled up, as individual taste, controlled and harmonised by the general superintendence of the authorities, might direct, than at once to display a complete creation, which, however attractive for the moment, would pall upon us and grow stale by habit.

Unrivalled opportunities are here offered for the display of works of art, and for the erection of monuments as tributes to great men and public benefactors. The memorial of the Exhibition of 1851, the result of private subscriptions, will be the first received in these grounds; and, adorned with a statue of the Queen, will soon rise in the centre of the garden.

May your efforts meet with public approbation! May that approbation give you all the support required, not only further to ornament these gardens, but also to carry out, even on a larger scale than during the last forty-eight years, the useful objects for which you are incorporated.

When his Royal Highness had concluded the Bishop of London stepped forward to read the service prepared by him for the occasion, consisting of short extracts from the service of the day and a prayer especially appropriate. At the conclusion of this solemnity the Prince Consort declared the gardens open, the bands again struck up "God Save the Queen," and the procession, partially re-formed, moved on to the right wing of the conservatory, in front of which a very fine seedling of the *Wellingtonia gigantea* had been made ready for planting. This, of course, occupied only a few minutes, but it gave an opportunity to another and a larger section of spectators to observe the Royal and distinguished visitors. The programme enumerated, of course, all the Commissioners, including some who were absent. But among those who were able to keep their appointments we recognised Lord Palmerston, Earl Granville, Lord Derby, Mr. Gladstone, Mr. Disraeli, and Mr. M. Gibson; so that both Houses of Parliament were present in the persons of their leaders.

By the time that the infantine specimen of gigantic vegetation had been settled in its bed, only a few minutes remained for the Royal visitors to complete their tour of the arcades, accept of some refreshment, and take their departure at the hour prescribed. But the programme was accomplished with exemplary punctuality, and a very pretty memorial of the occasion left behind by the Princes and Princesses, in the shape of their autographs, on beautifully illuminated leaves, which were forthwith framed and hung up in the entrance court, where they may remain till the *Wellingtonia gigantea* has risen from its present six feet up to the six hundred it is supposed capable of obtaining.

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ILLUSTRATED TIMES.

SATURDAY, JUNE 8, 1861.

THE FRENCH AMERICANS.

THE American quarrel has already become hot enough to call some of the most remarkable qualities of the belligerents into full bloom. The people have displayed all the ferocious energy, all the capacity for military organisation, all the admiration of themselves as soldiers, that was expected of them. Their leaders, as we had equal reason to anticipate, have swaggered without measure, and thereupon have acted with a corresponding degree of weakness and vacillation. Why so great a country as America should have such little governors, and why the passionate bombast of these potentates should be so much relished by an intelligent people, may be explained, perhaps; but it is still wonderful. The very liberal institutions of the United States provide that the lowest creature in the Union may rise to power; and the lowest creatures so warmly appreciate the privilege that the highest are rarely seen in public life. As for the rest, America is (or was) a country vast, rich, powerful, ranking with the oldest and strongest States in the world; and, with all this, it feels something like a parvenu. It has no historic traditions, no great names, save one or two—nothing like the long roll which England, Germany, and France can show; and, therefore, just as American writers descend in a fine, sentimental style of the hoary antiquity of buildings a hundred years old, so is there a constant effort to get up a quick crop of "remarkable men"—a disposition to applaud rowdy eloquence in the hope that the orator may turn out a Cicero or a Demosthenes, and his speeches prove a hotbed for heroes. Well, that is an excellent disposition, too, at bottom; the only objection to it being that it might lead to a breach of the world's peace now and then, if the world did not understand it. As it is, Americans can afford themselves the pleasurable, hopeful excitement (which nobody grudges them) so long as they remain at peace. But now they are at war; and war sufficiently excites the passions without the harangues of sensation politicians. If the politicians happen to be ignorant or misinformed, so much the more is the danger; and if they also happen to be diplomatists, ambassadors, or men of that standing, to the danger is added disgrace.

These remarks are suggested by the speeches at a meeting held in Paris last week. The assembly was composed of Americans resident in that city or sojourning there; and, as the chairman had it, they "met together to listen to words of wisdom from their illustrious countrymen." The "illustrious countrymen" appear to have been Mr. Dayton, the American Minister at the Court of the Tuileries; Mr. Cassius Clay, Ambassador to the Court of St. Petersburg; Mr. Burlingame,

accredited in the same capacity at Vienna; and Colonel Fremont. The "words of wisdom" we find nowhere; but words of bunkum and words of irritation abound. However, it is too late to criticise the style of American eloquence, for which boundless prairies, tall mountains, interminable forests, and the example of Mississippi steam-boats are probably accountable. But when two or three Ambassadors get together to threaten a friendly country on assumptions totally unfounded, the natural or tolerable limits of bunkum are exceeded; too many pine knots are thrown under the boilers; and the "sensation" becomes dangerous to everybody concerned. The Americans were angry because England had recognised the Confederate States as "belligerents." This was what provoked Mr. Cassius Clay (who notifies that he has taken his country under his special protection) to exclaim:—"If England, after all she has said against slavery, shall draw her sword in its defence, then I say, great as she is, she 'shall perish by the sword.' When she mingles the red crosses of the union jack with the piratical black flag of the 'Confederate States of America,' will not just as certainly the tricolour and the stars and stripes float once more in fraternal folds?" And, further (that there may be no mistake about Cassius): "Can France forget who has doggedly hedged in all the fields of her glory? Can Napoleon forget St. Helena? Will he at her bidding turn his back upon the East? Shall 'Partant pour la Syrie' be heard in France no more for ever?" And so on. Mr. Burlingame screamed in the same strain, declaring that "the French do not mock at us in our supposed calamity," or speak of "belligerent rights in such a way as to lead us to infer that they would make merchandise of our misfortunes, and open all their ports to the pirate's prize."

Now, we are not surprised when New York journalists use such language as they have done on this very subject. But a company of diplomatists ought to have known better. Our authority for acknowledging the Southern Confederacy to be belligerent is, that the Confederacy is distinctly at war with the Northern States; and it is not our business to settle the merits of the quarrel out of which the war arises. The reason why such an acknowledgment was publicly made is equally obvious: it was necessary for the Government to inform her Majesty's subjects of the risks they would run in lending assistance to either side. The proclamation, in fact, explained our neutrality; and we suppose it is not of this that Cassius Clay complains. At any rate, Mr. Burlingame's imputation that England intended to make merchandise of America's misfortunes, and open her ports to "the pirate's prize," has been completely refuted. We publish elsewhere a letter dispatched by Lord John Russell to the Lords Commissioners of the Admiralty and all whom it may concern, in which the Government interdicts "the armed ships, and also the privateers, of both parties from carrying prizes made by them into the ports, harbours, roadsteads, or waters of the United Kingdom, of any of her Majesty's colonies or possessions abroad." We hope that will satisfy Mr. Burlingame, who would probably brag that he had whipped the British Government into taking the measure but for this fact: Lord John Russell happened to have conferred about it with the French before Mr. Burlingame's speech was delivered.

The moral of this affair is of no value to us. Relying on the good sense and kindly feeling of the American people, we have ceased to care for the ebullitions of Cassius Clays and Honourable Burlingames. But it is for Americans to consider whether men capable of making such blunders are capable of conducting the affairs of their country at a crisis like the present. America has been hitherto so prosperous and full of plenty that the evils of misgovernment are there reduced to a minimum; but the times may change—they are changing; and it will not always do to confide the fortunes of a great empire to turbulent politicians of fifth-rate capacity.

THE CANADIAN CENSUS.—Although the returns of the personal census are not yet complete, the general result may be stated with sufficient accuracy for all practical purposes. The total population of United Canada will not exceed 2,700,000; and the excess of population in Upper over that of Lower Canada will not be more than 180,000 souls. The increase during the last decade has been about 40 per cent in Upper and 30 per cent in Lower Canada.

DEATH OF VICE-ADMIRAL SIR RICHARD DUNDAS, K.C.B.—We regret to have to announce the sudden death of the above gallant Admiral, senior naval Lord Commissioner of the Admiralty. The event took place suddenly on Monday at his residence in New-street, Spring-gardens. The Admiral attended Divine service, as usual, at St. Matthew's Chapel, apparently in possession of excellent health, and next morning descended to breakfast at his customary hour. Afterwards he complained of illness, and left the room for his bedchamber. Medical aid was called in, but within a few hours the gallant Admiral expired. We understand the cause of death was disease of the heart. The late Sir Richard was the second son of Robert Saunders Dundas, second Viscount Melville, by Annie, daughter and coheir of Richard Huck Saunders, M.D., and was born on the 11th of April, 1802. On leaving Harrow School, at the age of thirteen, he entered the Royal Naval College, and in June, 1817, first went abroad as a volunteer on board the *Ganymede*, 26 guns. The deceased officer's commissions bore date as follows:—Lieutenant, June 18, 1821; Commander, June 23, 1823; Captain, July 17, 1824; Rear-Admiral, July 4, 1833; and Vice-Admiral, February 24, 1858. The late Sir Richard was a Grand Officer of the Legion of Honour, and had received the honorary degree of D.C.L. from the University of Oxford. The deceased was brother of General Viscount Melville and the Hon. Robert Dundas, Storekeeper-General of the Navy.

LANDOR AND GARIBALDI.—The following inscription has been written by Walter Savage Landor for Garibaldi's house at Nice:—

His in illis natus est Garibaldi,
Miles strenuus, imperator,
Dux et jax provirus
Victor clemens, imperator modestus,
Vir probus.

THE PRICE OF SLAVES.—"A year ago," says a New York correspondent, "I had occasion while in the extra Southern States, and residing for some months upon one of the largest cotton plantations, to become familiar with the current prices of negroes. In Alabama, Louisiana, Mississippi, and Texas prices are highest. A year ago, in Georgia or South Carolina, a male field hand would bring 1100 dollars; a female (breeder) 1600 dollars; a mechanic 1400 dollars; to 1600 dollars; children 400 dollars, to 500 dollars. The same negroes would not now bring 300 dollars, for male and female; 600 dollars, for a mechanic, and 150 dollars, for children; and these prices, too, would be paid in a depreciated currency, not worth in the North fifty cents upon the dollar. Prices will go still lower, while the slaveholders of Virginia and Kentucky are rushing to the cotton regions with such slaves as they can carry with them. In six months from this date, after the cotton crop of 1861 is gathered, slaves will be of small value, except in the extreme South."

SAYINGS AND DOINGS.

THE QUEEN, accompanied by the Court, arrived at Buckingham Palace from Osborne on Saturday.

MISS VICTORIA STUART WORTLEY is appointed one of the Maids of Honour to her Majesty, in the room of the Hon. Mary Bulteel, resigned.

THE CELEBRATED DRAMA OF MR. BOUICHAULT, "Colleen Bawn," is about, it is said, to be produced in Paris.

THE PRUSSIAN PRESIDENT OF POLICE, BARON ZEDLITZ, has obtained a reprieve for an indefinite term; in other words, he has been dismissed.

THE FLAG-SHIP REVENGE, accompanied by the Aboukir, the Centurion, and the Conqueror, sailed from Plymouth on Thursday for Gibraltar.

THE GOVERNMENT has resolved on issuing a Royal Commission to inquire into public schools, such as Eton, Westminster, Harrow, Rugby, the Charterhouse, and Christ's Hospital.

GARIBOLDI, it is said, contemplates a voyage to America in a month of time, if war in Italy should not appear likely to arise.

GENERAL D'ORCONI, long in the pay of the Birman empire, and who had left France for a second visit on the outbreak of the Indian mutiny, is back in Paris, and this time brings a white elephant, the gift of that barbaric Power, for the Paris Zoological Gardens.

MIRKA was to have been brought to trial on Thursday before the Tribunal of Correctional Police, charged with fraud, breach of trust, and the distribution of a dividend on the shares of the "Caisse des Chemins de Fer" which the position of the company's affairs did not warrant.

THE ORDINANCE SURVEY, hindered last year by very bad weather, and the preparation of the survey and plans for the defence of the country, is now being carried on in Scotland and the north of England.

JAMAICA was visited in the afternoon of the 27th ult. with a very severe earthquake. This shock was equally felt in the capital of Kingston, at Montego Bay, and in the county of Cornwall; and though no lives were lost much consternation was felt, and some considerable damage to property inflicted.

GENERAL KLAPKA is stated to be constantly moving backwards and forwards between Capera and Milan.

MR. HALIBURTON, M.P., has consented to preside at the anniversary dinner of the Printers' Pension Society, at the London Tavern, on the 3rd of July.

MR. W. E. HAVENS, one of the Colchester county magistrates, recently arraigned the chairman and seven other county magistrates of the Colchester division, and their clerk, upon the charge of conspiring together to remove him from the Bench. The magistrates dismissed the charge as frivolous.

AT PORTSMOUTH great activity is apparent in fitting out and bringing forward ships belonging to the steam reserve.

A MAN NAMED BROWN, residing at Dagenham, starved himself to death last week, under the delusion that God forbade him eating food and drinking beer.

M. THIERS, it is said, has resolved to make over the prize of 20,000fr. which has just been awarded to him to the French Academy to be bestowed by them upon some writer whom they may select. The question is thus opened again.

THE REV. CHARLES ELLICOTT, Hulsean Professor of Divinity at the University of Cambridge, and Professor of Divinity in King's College, London, has been appointed Dean of Exeter.

ALDERMAN STEWART, of Rochdale, has received a letter from Mr. Cobden, who briefly states that he will be ready to meet his constituents on any day they may fix.

THE MEMBERS OF THE SPECIAL EMBASSY TO CHINA and the China Staff entertained the Earl of Elgin, K.T., G.C.B., and Lieutenant-General Sir J. Hope Grant, G.C.B., at a banquet on Thursday week, at the Albion, Aldersgate-street.

THERE IS A STRIKE AMONG THE JOURNEMEN PRINTERS at Dijon, and two journals of that city have not been able to appear in consequence.

THE GREAT APPEAL CASE OF "PATERNON V. BONAPARTE," which was fixed for June 5, stands over till June 24.

TWELVE WEDNESDAY CONCERTS are about to be given at the Surrey Garden Concert-room, conducted by Prince George Galitzin.

MR. E. M. WARD is to paint M. Fichter in the character of Hamlet.

THE DECISION OF THE GOVERNMENT ON THE GAIWAY CONTRACT has resolved Mr. Bagwell, the member for Clonmel, to resign his seat at the Treasury Board.

M. LIETZ, the pianist, who was already an officer of the Legion of Honour, has just been promoted, on the occasion of his present visit to Paris, to the rank of Commander.

THE HALF-YEARLY MEETING OF THE ROYAL AGRICULTURAL SOCIETY OF IRELAND was held on Thursday week—Lord Clonbrock in the chair. The report stated that the subscriptions were considerably in advance of any former year.

UPWARDS OF 2000 OF MARTIN'S LIQUID IRON SHELLS have been supplied to the principal batteries in the Chatham district, the greater number having been distributed to Tilbury Fort and New Tavern Fort, and the defences at the entrance to the River Medway. Cupolas for melting the iron have also been furnished to each of the stations named.

THE FLEET LATELY AT SPITHKAD left on Tuesday for Gibraltar.

THE SUNDAY BANDS IN THE PARKS commenced their sixth season on Sunday last in Regent's Park and Victoria Park.

PRINCE NAPOLEON is about to visit America, after having first journeyed through Algeria, Spain, and Portugal.

AN IRISH PAPER states that the Prince of Wales has accepted an invitation to a ball which will shortly be given by the Lord Mayor of Dublin.

THE PEACE SOCIETY has issued an address to the people of the United States earnestly recommending them to avoid the catastrophe of civil war.

THE EMPEROR NAPOLEON has sent a donation of 5000fr. for the relief of the sufferers by the fire of Glaris.

THE VOLUNTARY FIELD-DAY at WIMBLEDON is to take place on the 13th of July. Those corps outside the metropolitan district who wish to take part in the movements may apply for permission direct to the War Office before the 8th proximo.

A DEPUTATION from the Association for the Preservation of the Fisheries of Great Britain and Ireland waited upon Lord John Russell on Wednesday to request him to induce the French Government to assist in preventing the destruction of salmon during the "fence" months, by prohibiting the sale of it in Paris.

THE GREAT EASTERN IS NOW ON SHOW at Liverpool.

THE MORMONS believe, or affect to believe, that the disruption of the United States is the fulfilment of the prediction of Joe Smith about the breaking up of the Union.

ENGLISH AND GERMAN EMIGRANTS are returning to Europe from America.

THE BUILDERS' STRIKE.—There is a threatened renewal of the unhappy contest between the operatives connected with the building trades and their employers. The announced purpose to introduce the hour system of payment into establishments where at present another system prevails is the reason urged by the men for assuming a hostile attitude. On the one side there is an expressed determination to enforce the measure, and on the other to resist it.

A RESOLUTION BY GARIBOLDI.—The *Unità Italiana* of Milan, a Mazzinian organ, publishes the following letter from Garibaldi, dated Capera, 10th ult.:—"Sir, I am much obliged to the Unitary Italian Society of Palermo for the honour it has done me in choosing me for its honorary president. Having learnt from the English papers that there is a plan afloat for moving Garibaldi to the Pope, I have conceived the idea of submitting to the consideration of your society, to which I have the honour of belonging, the following resolution, the principles of which should be propagated, not only among the members of the society, but also among the Italian people generally:—"Considering that Christ, by con-secrating upon earth equality among men and nations, has deserved gratitude and love, we belong to the religion of Christ; considering that the Pope, the Cardinals, the Sanfedisti, all the mercenaries of Italy, and the epis assembled at Rome, are the chief obstacles to the unification of Italy, by their provoking and fomenting civil war, we do not belong to the religion of the Pope. In consequence of the above considerations, resolved:—That the Pope, the Cardinals, &c., shall shut up shop (*combari bottega*) at once and take themselves to some country as far away as possible from Italy, thus allowing this unfortunate Italian nation, which they have been torturing for ages, to constitute itself definitively.—I am, with affection and thanks, yours, GARIBOLDI."

A CAPITAL SHOT.—The *Bristol Mercury* tells a story of a man who was shooting pigeons the other day, and the charge from whose gun smashed several panes of glass in a distant house, and a basin of broth and spoon were thrown down. The crash so startled a man who was at dinner, and who had not been able to move for rheumatism for months without his crutches, that he ran to the front door without them this time, and commenced jumping about in front of the house, declaring that he was shot in the forehead. Next day the cripple was at work. The sportsman belongs to the 2nd Breconshire Rifles, which may now safely assert that it possesses one of the best shots in the world—a man who killed three birds, wounded a fourth, broke seven panes of glass, and cured a rheumatic cripple, all at a shot.

THE LOUNGER AT THE CLUBS.

IT is now quite certain that there is a serious quarrel between Disraeli and his party. Some go so far as to say that he has formally resigned his post as leader of the Conservatives; but, however this may be, you may rely upon it that there is a very serious difference, and that, unless something be done to smooth down Mr. Disraeli's ruffled feathers, he will abdicate, if he has not done so already. The Conservative chief's position has not been a pleasant one for some time. When he was in office the secession of Mr. Henley and Mr. Walpole was anything but agreeable to him. Mr. Newdegate's subsequent ostentatious declaration of want of confidence in his Government added to his difficulties. The fierce attack upon him in the *Quarterly Review*—generally attributed to Lord Robert Cecil—must have mortified and stung him not a little; and Mr. Bentinck's mutiny and undisguised dislike was a constant thorn in his side. All this, however, he bore with patience; but the desertion of seventeen Conservative gentlemen from the last division on the paper duty at a critical moment, when but for that victory would have been certain, was so open and unmistakable a declaration of want of confidence that he could not with any regard to his honour hold the leadership any longer—at least not without some explanation. Whether this explanation, and whether Mr. Disraeli will be lured back to his post, is matter of question. My own view of the case is that the quarrel will be made up; for, though it is notorious that a great part of the Conservatives dislike Mr. Disraeli, and feel quite as uncomfortable under his leadership as he does in it, yet the two are so necessary to each other under present circumstances that I think the rent will be patched up somehow for the present. Meanwhile it is quite evident that Disraeli is in high dudgeon. Since the division he has been but seldom in the House; when he did come in it was only just to look round and retire. Not once has he, I am told, been seen in his usual seat, but has wandered about the lobbies like an unquiet spirit. What a strange sight it would be if he should suddenly drop down amongst the independent Conservatives below the gangway! However, I do not, I cannot, imagine that it will come to this yet. I do not believe that the party will dare to provoke him to it. But if matters should proceed to such an extremity—whew! we shall have scenes in the House such as we have not seen for many a day. But in calculating chances upon this subject we must not forget that it is only a part of the Conservative party that dislikes Disraeli—indeed, I should say only a minority. A large number, if not a majority, are still enthusiastically attached to him, and would follow him anywhere—the Irish Conservatives, for example, and many of the young swells of the party. Disraeli's dashing, irregular, Arab-like mode of warfare, which is so distasteful to the solid country gentlemen, is rather pleasant to fervid Irishmen and fun-loving swells.

It is now known that seventeen of the best men of the Conservative party deliberately stopped away from the division upon the paper tax. Their motives were probably various. The Irish squabble disgusted them; many of them viewed with apprehension any change of Government just now; they thought that after the division upon paper versus tea another was not good policy, &c. I have not carefully examined the list, but a glance shows me that some of the best men of the party were absent—Mr. Deedes, for example, Mr. Bramston, Sir Michael Shaw Stewart, &c.

The weather on Wednesday was not very favourable for the grand opening of the new Horticultural Gardens at South Kensington, but the crowd that gathered there was enormous. Whether the threatening rain had prevented the ladies from donning their fête attire I know not, but certainly the toilets were nothing like those which used to grace the old Chiswick gala days, nor are the gardens to be compared either with Chiswick or with the grounds of the Botanic Society in Regent's Park. Granted that they are unfinished, and that an immense deal more work is necessary to bring them to perfection, it was surely a great mistake to attempt to open them so soon. From their very shape and plan of laying out they are manifestly inferior to the places just named. They are very large, very square, and very flat. On one side they are quite overlooked by houses, and bricks and mortar seem gradually to be enviroining them, so that eventually they will look like a very much-magnified garden of a London square. One misses the glorious old trees of Chiswick, the verdant knolls and pleasant undulations of the Botanic; and the "miniature Crystal Palace" conservatory, of which the reporters speak in such rhapsodies, looks but stiff and poor, and ugly, when compared with the grand palm-house and swelling, bubble-like conservatories at Kew. All the world was there on Wednesday—Lord Palmerston and Lord John not in the procession, but strolling among the spectators; and Mr. Disraeli, looking none the worse for the "Derby spill." The show of flowers and fruit was really magnificent, but the covered arcades in which they were exhibited have a very mournful and catacomb-like appearance.

A sufficient extinguisher has been placed upon the "Poet Close." The warrant for his pension had not received the sign-manual, and the exposure of his wretched ignorance and shameless levy of blackmail was, fortunately, made in time to prevent the impostor becoming a burden upon the nation. The grant of his pension has been rescinded, the "poet" having been found not merely a tuneless doggerel-monger, but one who eked out his livelihood by threats and extortion; and we may now look for a "copy of verses" on Lord Palmerston of a very different burden to the last. This result is mainly due to the unflagging energy and perseverance of the editor of our contemporary the *Critic*. He first started the game; he has hunted it down with untiring pertinacity, and he has earned the thanks of all literary men by his exposure of an insult to their profession.

The annual conversation of the Society of Civil Engineers was held at the institution in Great George-street on Tuesday evening, and was, as usual, the "cram" of the season. Authors, artists, actors, and men of science were seen struggling on the stairs of the large lecture-hall; and be it noted that the greatest of your engineers, from whose brains have sprung the great works of the day, have generally in early life worked for some time at the bench or the forge, and thereby obtained a muscular development which is very serviceable to them in such a crowd. It was a very pleasant gathering. There was plenty of science for the scientific, plenty of amusement for the idle, and plenty of ice for everybody. Here was seen a group gathering round some portentous engine, and listening in rapt attention to the explanation of its inventor, while next to them would be half-a-dozen laughing over some sheets of those large-headed photographs which Mr. Herbert Watkins has just brought out. There were some very good pictures on the walls; among them one remarkable for the blending of moon and lamp light effect, by Van Schendel.

This day week M. Blondin made his debut before an English public at the Crystal Palace, and on a cord stretched across the interior of the transept executed some very marvellous, and particularly horrifying, feats. He is a man of extraordinary nerve and apparently thoroughly insensible to fear; it would be better if he would confine himself to traversing the rope, and would omit the premeditated false steps and other extravagances, which do not add much to the wonder of his performance, and which must seriously interfere with the internal organisation of some of Mr. Strange's intending patrons.

CRIME IN PRUSSIAN COURT CIRCLES.—A letter from Carlsruhe in the *New Prussian Gazette* of the 1st inst. says:—"An attempt was lately made to poison the Grand Marshal of the Court, M. Baumbach, and it is affirmed that another has now taken place. What is certain is that, after an investigation by the judicial authorities and a search of M. Baumbach's house, the lady gentleman's wife and several of his servants have been arrested. The lady is allowed two rooms in the apartment of the director of the prison, and is treated with great attention. Her husband is firmly convinced that she is not guilty, and hopes are entertained that her innocence will be demonstrated."

SUMMER FASHIONS.

DRESSMAKERS and milliners are all busy making garments for the country or seaside, as also many elegant muslin dresses, the manufacture of which is, we think, more beautiful, and the designs more charming, than we have ever seen them.

Barège and muslin dresses are generally trimmed with narrow flounces or puffings, or both of these. Many fancy dresses, such as mohair, poil de chèvre, &c., are made with one narrow plain silk flounce at the bottom of the skirt, and bound with the same material as the dress. We have noticed that a great number of bodies are made with lappels (revers), and the sleeves large, with turned-back cuffs to correspond.

For in-door wear Zouave Jackets still continue fashionable, and are made in every variety of shape and style. Every dressmaker who executes them endeavours to introduce some novelty of cut or trimming, to make a little change and alteration in this favourite garment. One we saw was made with two side-pieces behind, and fitted admirably to the back, with a narrow collar, and straight lappels in front. The sleeves were plain, with pointed cuffs fastened down by buttons. Under the Zouave jackets all kinds of chemisettes are worn, some in muslin, others in coloured foulards, and, again, others in white cashmere, embroidered in pink, red, or blue. For this season of the year a Zouave jacket made of white piqué is very suitable; it should be braided in black, and the skirt of piqué to correspond should be braided in the same manner. A plaited muslin chemisette, or a piqué waistcoat of the same material as the dress, may be worn with this.

A very pretty little pelerine, to be worn with a low body, may be made of plain net or muslin covered with narrow tucks. It should be made pointed behind, with ends crossing in front, and trimmed round the neck with a ruffling of narrow lace, and outside with two rows of wider lace. The sleeves to be worn with this pelerine should be made to correspond, with two puffings at the top, and a deep frill with a series of narrow tucks, finished off by a double row of broad lace.

In many of our first houses we have remarked a very pretty novelty for wearing over low bodies. It consists of pieces of velvet, not narrower than an inch, tacked together at equal distances, forming squares, and is pointed both behind and before. Sometimes white or black net is placed underneath the velvet, and sometimes a fulness of net is gathered in to the top row and drawn with a narrow velvet round the neck.

For summer wear scarves seem likely to be in favour again. Lace mantles, with or without a mixture of silk, and some of these over a coloured silk, will also be worn.

As we said last month, there is nothing so elegant as the shawls which are now so fashionable. They are trimmed with lace, and some of them are bordered with crossway pieces of coloured silk, covered with lace insertion. These are made in all colours, but the favourite shade appears to be lilac, while others are embroidered in silk and jet, &c. A pardsuss we noticed last week was composed of bands of silk and lace insertion, the silk being finished off at the top and bottom by a narrow lace. Two deep rows of handsome black lace completed this mantle, which may be made in a variety of colours. The one we have just described was made of grey silk, and formed part of a mourning toilet. Another mantle was entirely white, covered with white ruches and black lace; another, black, of a round shape, was trimmed with straw and black lace. Grenadine mantles are being made, plaited in at the back; these plaits being fastened by a bow of ribbon placed between each one. Large black silk jackets are still very much worn, and are corded with white or coloured silk; these jackets or basquines may be made tightly fitting to the figure or not. Some of them are finished off with a round collar, some with a pointed collar, others with a lace pelerine. The paleot is the favourite shape for light cloth cloaks for seaside and country wear; and for travelling, the large burnous will continue to be worn, as, being made without sleeves, it is easily thrown over other garments.

Hats are worn in every variety of shape, colour, and trimming. They may be divided three classes—the Tudor, with broad, flat, turned-up brim; the Clothilde, of an oval shape, also turned up at the side; and the bell shape. A new hat just appeared; it is the shape of the Tudor hat in front, but comes down in a point behind on the neck; we do not think this hat is likely to be a favourite one, as it has rather a conspicuous air. The hats with turned down brims are certainly the most useful sort to wear, as they protect the face and neck from the sun, whilst the others leave them more exposed than do the bonnets. Black, white, and coloured feathers or rosettes are the usual trimming for ladies' hats, and for little boys the tufts or cockades seem more in favour than the long feathers. A pretty little round hat for a child of two years old is made of good plain straw, bound with sky-blue silk velvet, and with two velvet rosettes in front, or a round tuft of white ostrich feathers.

Bonnets are not worn quite so much raised in front as they were last season; still there is a great deal of trimming used at the top, and very little or none at all at the sides. Plain straw bonnets are only worn for morning and simple toilets; whilst those for more dressy wear are made of tulle, crêpe, white horsehair, rice straw, &c.

Skirts are worn as ample and full as ever, and are generally gored to throw them out at the bottom. Stiff muslin petticoats, with flounces, or one deep flounce at the bottom, are very suitable for wearing with thin muslin, barège, or unlined silk dresses, as they set the dresses out in a more graceful manner than does a very large crinoline.—*Englishwoman's Domestic Magazine*.

THE ILLUSTRATIONS.

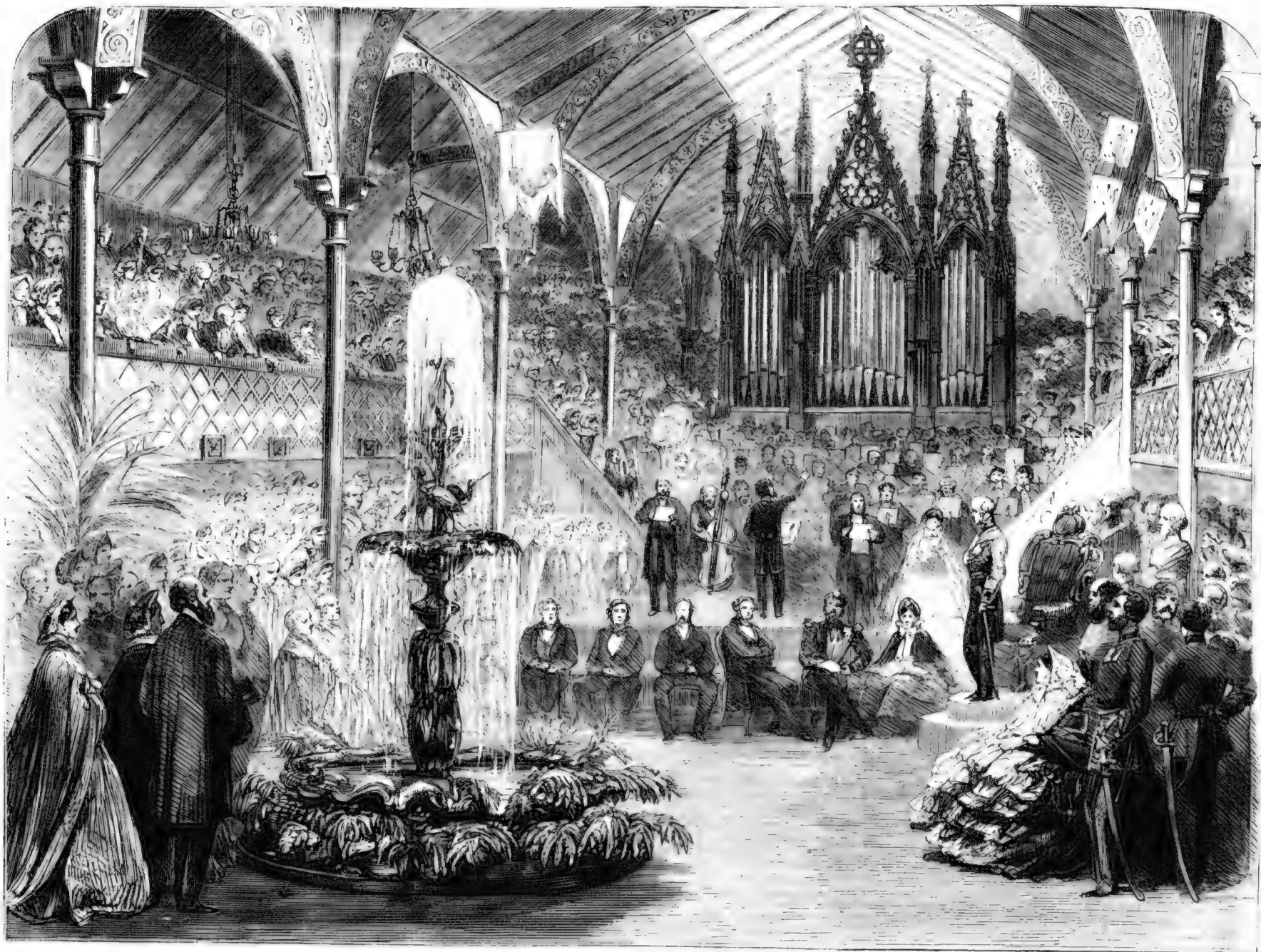
Fig. 1. Robe of light grey barège, trimmed with five rows of narrow blue ribbon, above and below which is a narrow quilled flounce of the same material as the dress. The corsage is straight at the waist, and fastened up the front by a row of blue silk buttons. Two bands of barège, trimmed in the same manner as the edge of the skirt, pass down the front of the corsage from the shoulders to the waist. The ceinture, fastened on the left side, is edged with blue ribbon and a quilled frill. Bonnet of white and black straw, trimmed with black lace and blue corn-flowers.

Fig. 2. Dress of pink figured silk, the skirt finished at the edge by a very narrow quilled frill of the same. The sleeves fit closely to the arm, with a full puff, forming an epaulette on the shoulder. Round the waist is worn the Ceinture Médicis. It is made of black velvet. In front it has one point up and two down, the latter finished with small tassels. At the back it has one point up and three down, finished with tassels. A broad ceinture of black silk, fringed at the ends, is fastened on the left side of the waist. The pelerine, of muslin and guipure, is in the form of a half-handkerchief. The point at the back is pinned down to the corsage, and the two points in front are left to hang loosely.

Fig. 3. Dress of light grey silk, figured with violet-coloured spots. Large mantelet of black silk, trimmed with narrow frills of the same, headed by plissés of black and violet. The mantelet has square ends in front. Bonnet of white crêpe, trimmed with blonde lace, and bouquets of wild flowers.

Fig. 4. Little Girl's Dress.—Pélisse of grey mohair, trimmed with narrow rouleaux of green silk, and three rows of green silk buttons on the front, extending from the top of the corsage to the edge of the skirt. Hat of brown straw, trimmed with a long ostrich feather, and with broad sarcenet ribbon of the same colour. Under-sleeves, collar, and trousers of embroidered muslin. Boots of grey cashmere, tipped with glazed leather.

Fig. 5. Little Boy's Dress.—Trousers and jacket of chequered piqué, trimmed with brown soutache. The trousers are very full, and drawn on bands below the knees. The jacket is open, showing the shirt. The sleeves are demilong, with broad revers. Full under-sleeves with worked cuffs. A sailor's hat of leghorn, with a band black velvet and an aigrette of black and white straw.



OPENING OF THE DUBLIN ART-EXHIBITION BY HIS EXCELLENCY THE LORD LIEUTENANT.

THE DUBLIN ART-EXHIBITION.

THE inauguration of the Royal Dublin Society's Art-Exhibition on the 26th ult. was extremely successful. There were misgivings about the result of such an undertaking when the idea was started at a meeting of artists and manufacturers in August last, especially with reference to the expense; but a few spirited members of the

Royal Dublin Society set to work to raise a guarantee fund of £5000, and in a short time the sum of £9000 was received. Ind. ed, all has gone well.

One o'clock was the hour set apart for the opening. Long before that time the building was thronged in every part by the holders of season tickets, which cost 25s. for gentlemen and 15s. for ladies.

The effect of the *tout ensemble* during the performance of the inaugural ceremony was most pleasing and impressing. If wanting in the magnitude necessary to produce great effects and to awe the mind of the beholder, it charmed by the taste and beauty and completeness of the whole scene.

The Lord Lieutenant arrived at a quarter before two o'clock



SUMMER FASHIONS.

attended by his Court. A guard of honour lined the passage to the hall. His Excellency was received by the Lord Mayor and the Vice-Presidents of the Royal Dublin Society, the Honorary Secretaries, the Chairman of the Exhibition Committee, and other gentlemen. A procession having been formed, the National Anthem was sung in solo and chorus. The 100th Psalm was next sung, two hundred voices joining in the chorus. An address to the Lord Lieutenant was then read by Mr. Gilbert Sanders, Chairman of the Exhibition Committee, his Excellency replying in a speech, in which he said, "I congratulate the society on the gracious co-operation with which they have been honoured from crowned heads, especially from our own beloved Queen; and I think there is every reason to hope that we may be gratified by seeing among the spectators of this exhibition his Royal Highness the Prince of Wales, during his auspicious residence in Ireland. The collection now about to be opened to the public gaze, besides its illustrations of ancient and modern art, will trace some of the manifold connections between art and manufacturing skill, and will thus add point to the pleasing contrast adverted to in your address, that, while in other regions and communities either the baleful blight of war is ravaging the fair face of nature, or discord is summoning brothers to worse than warlike strife, we, the loyal subjects of our common Sovereign, the tranquil citizens of one united empire, the peaceful friends of the whole family of nations, are in new temples celebrating the high festivals of industry, art, and concord."

The chorus from "The Creation," "The heavens are telling," was then given, after which his Excellency was conducted through the various departments of the exhibition by Mr. Gilbert Sanders, Lord Talbot de Malahide, and Judge Berwick, the band meantime playing a new march composed by Dr. Stewart. Having returned to the dais, his Excellency said, "Ladies and gentlemen, I feel now qualified to congratulate the society and the city upon the beautiful collection that has been made, and I now declare the exhibition to be open." Sir Bernard Burke, as Ulster King-at-Arms, then officially declared that the Exhibition of Fine Arts and Ornamental Art for 1861 was now open. The "Hallelujah" chorus was sung, and his Excellency soon afterwards retired, warmly applauded on his departure, as he had been on his entrance.

THE EXHIBITION OF 1862.

THE building for the Great Exhibition of 1862 is advancing rapidly. Three weeks ago, and the surveyors were marking out the ground where piles of masonry and acres of brickwork now appear.

Many of our readers understand what the builder's "bill of quantities" means, and recollect how they have shrunk in alarm from the estimate of so many thousand bricks, two tons of mortar, five hundredweight of timber, so many hundred Queen slates, and so on. All bills of quantities, however, fall into utter insignificance when we come to look at the amount of materials required to complete the building for 1862. The foundations have already consumed 5000 tons of concrete, which, as the first item, is pretty fair. On these foundations will be laid nearly 60,000 tons, or 1,400,000 cubic feet, of brickwork, requiring upwards of 18,000,000 bricks. To 18,000,000 bricks no less than 22,000 tons of mortar will be requisite. 10,000 tons of iron-work—viz., about 7000 tons of cast and 3000 tons of wrought iron—will be used in the entire structure. As there are nearly 1,200,000 superficial feet of flooring, the same amount of timber as of iron is required—namely, 10,000 tons. The flooring alone consumes 360 miles of planking of seven inches wide, and 270 miles' length of nine inches wide, or upwards of 600 miles' length of planking in all. For the windows no less than 108 miles' length, or 600,000 feet, of sash will be required; to fill in which are required 500 tons of sheet glass and upwards of 50 tons of putty. The roofs will need 600,000 square feet of felt; and among the minor items are between 200 and 300 tons of nails, 600 tons of paint, 300 tons of piping, and so on. The cubical contents of the whole structure will be no less than 73,000,000 cubic feet.

On Wednesday the Prince Consort presided at a meeting of the Society of Arts in the hall, John-street, Adelphi, when a paper "On the International Exhibition of 1862" was read by Mr. Hawes. Lord Granville made a speech, and, after him, the Prince Consort, who said:—"Lord Granville has referred to the fact of my presence here giving you an evidence of my interest in the success of the coming Exhibition of 1862. I should be sorry to lead you to form, as it were, by inference a conclusion from my presence alone that I take that interest; and I wish you to hear from my own mouth that I do take that interest. Sir Thomas Phillips has been kind enough to refer to what I have done with regard to this matter. Gentlemen, whatever I have done to start you in the right road I have done with great willingness and pleasure. I assure you it is a true privation to me to be prevented by the avocations and duties of my position from giving the same amount of time and labour to the forthcoming Exhibition that I was privileged to give to the one that preceded it. Gentlemen, you will succeed. You are in earnest, and, being in earnest, you will succeed. I can congratulate you on the steps you have taken; you have an able body of managers, with all of whom I am well acquainted; and from my acquaintance I can say that they are thoroughly conversant with all the work you have imposed

on them. You have also an able architect—a young officer of engineers—who, as alluded to by Lord Granville, has to-day shown, by the work which has been opened in the Horticultural Gardens, that he is capable of vast designs, novel contrivances, and is possessed of great taste. Gentlemen, Lord Granville and Sir Thomas Phillips have referred to foreign nations. I happen to know that foreign nations look with favour on this exhibition and are prepared to come to measure their strength with yours. I need not repeat the warning and encouragement that Lord Granville has thrown out to the trades of this country that they should endeavour to maintain the position they so gloriously took on the last occasion."

BLONDIN AT THE CRYSTAL PALACE.

ON Saturday afternoon M. Blondin made his first appearance before an English audience on a rope stretched along the top of the Crystal Palace transept, nearly 200 feet from the ground. The whole exhibition was in the highest degree successful, and, though what was done was more than sufficient to astound and almost terrify an audience who witnessed M. Blondin for the first time, it really amounted to nothing when compared with what this astounding rope-walker can and has achieved, and what he, of course, will do again during his performances in this country. Perhaps what has

Blondin some time, however, before he can exhaust all the wonder and admiration of his English audiences.

The rope on which he performed on Saturday was a 2-inch hawser, stretched from above the fifth gallery of the centre transept, a distance of 320ft. in length, and a little over 180ft. from the floor beneath. The rope was carried over sheaved wheels, resting on the summit of the main columns of the building, and thence carried down in a line with the columns, and secured on the lowest gallery. By this means the only strain on the columns was one of direct pressure, which, of course, they can carry to many hundred times the amount placed on them. The rope was tightened by double purchases to such an extent that the diameter of the portion over which Blondin walked was reduced from 2 to 1½ in. Guy-lines to steady it from lateral swing, were placed at intervals of 25ft., weighted with double leaden weights of 40lb. each. The pole Blondin used was 30ft. long, weighted at each end, so as to make a perfect balance from the centre, and weighing in all a little over 40lb.

At four o'clock he made his appearance at the end of the rope, and was met with great applause. He wore the dress of an Indian chief, the same in which he performed before the Prince of Wales, and which is formed entirely of those most beautiful specimens of Indian beadwork which are offered to visitors at the Falls. Without chalking either his feet or the rope, or any of those hesitating preliminaries in which minor artistes indulge to impress the public with the perils of their vocation, he came out at once upon the rope, standing on each leg alternately, motionless as a statue. The "sag" or drop of the cable from a straight line is twelve feet; at Niagara it was nearly forty, and was there almost a source of danger. On Saturday he quite disregarded this slight incline, and, after showing how perfectly at home he was by balancing his pole on the rope and standing on his head in the centre of it, he dropped at once flat on his back, turned a summersault backwards, caught up his pole, and ran as swiftly almost as a man would run on the ground across the rope to the other side of the building. He then walked backwards, again stood on his head, again lay on his back, and ran about with a freedom of motion and certainty of step that to the spectators was utterly incomprehensible. There was no balancing, no movement of the pole from side to side: every feat on this inch-and-a-half rope, 180 feet from the ground, was done with the same certainty and the same apparent ease as if he was performing on the floor so far beneath. He next had his eyes firmly bandaged, and over his head was placed a new sack with holes in the side for his arms. Thus hampered, he again ventured out upon the cord, though this time feigning uncertainty and doubt with cautious trembling footsteps that raised the spectators' fear and anxiety to the very utmost. Thrice he pretended to miss the rope, and reeled and staggered on it in a way that made every one's blood run cold. Then, instantly throwing off his hesitation, he ran quickly along the rope, stood on his head, lay on his back, turned a summersault backwards, and all this still blindfold and enveloped in his canvas bag. The visitors seemed scarcely able to believe their eyes. His removing the sack and bandage was an awful thing to see. Seating himself on the rope with as much nonchalance as in an easy-chair, he held the pole between his knees, and, by a series of dreadful jerks, got the sack on which he was sitting from under him, pulled it over his head, and threw it from him. He then undid the knots of the bandage over his eyes, using both hands, and all the while sitting quietly on the cord, swinging his legs perfectly at home, then threw the bandage from him, turned more summersaults, and then, amid tremendous applause, ran swiftly up the rope, and bowed his adieux and acknowledgments.

A second performance took place on Thursday, when still more extraordinary feats were accomplished.

THE CASE OF BARON DE BODE.

THE late Baron de Bode was born in Staffordshire in the year 1777, his father being a German (but a French subject), and his mother an Englishwoman. Some years afterwards he accompanied his parents to France. There he derived from his father large territorial possessions, which, in the course of the French Revolution, were confiscated to the State as the property of an *émigré*. This property, which consisted of a castle, with an adjoining demesne, valued at upwards of £350,000, was situated in Alsace, and was sold by direction of the Revolutionary Government, which in 1793 ruled France, and the proceeds were appropriated to the service of the State. Baron de Bode had emigrated to Austria previous to the confiscation of his property, and during the succeeding years of the French Republic and of the first French Empire had no opportunity of seeking redress from the French Government. Peace having been proclaimed in 1814 between England and France, and Louis XVIII. having been restored to the throne, a treaty was entered into between the two nations with the view of compensating British subjects for losses sustained by them through the oppressive acts of the Revolutionary Government. In the following year large sums of money were paid by the French to the English Government in accordance with this treaty, sufficiently large to cover not only the



M. BLONDIN—(FROM A PHOTOGRAPH BY SLOCUM AND ZAMBRA.)

been related of his performances was too much for popular belief, especially when we recollect with what detail and elaboration some of the American papers set themselves to work to deny the very existence of such a person as Blondin altogether, and to denounce the whole story of his achievements as a deliberate hoax. The reason for this denial was simply that Blondin was too successful, and the hotelkeepers of Newport and other watering-places found that the attractions of Niagara with Blondin were telling seriously on their own receipts. A humorous exposure of the whole thing as a hoax was therefore prepared, and went the round of the American newspapers. Like most very sharp dodges, however, this trick was too clever by half; and the controversy it gave rise to between those who had seen Blondin and those who denied his existence *in toto* only made him the talk of the Union for nearly a month, and brought more people to see him than ever. On his rope over the rapids which flow from those tremendous Falls he at last exhausted the popular appetite for terror and excitement, crossing backward, crossing in a sack, wheeling a barrow, carrying a man, and the last most dangerous feat of all—before the Prince of Wales—crossing the rope on stilts about four feet high. These attempts showed him such a perfect master of his art that visitors at last came reluctantly to the belief that Blondin was as safe on his rope as they were on the ground, and, there thus being no prospect of his falling, the interest of the exhibition so rapidly diminished that at last the announcement of Blondin's "walking" would only command the attention of the latest visitors at the Clifton House or Metropolitan. It will take

other claims which were subsequently made, but also that which was preferred by Baron de Bode. During the three or four years immediately succeeding the payment made by the French Government on account of such English subjects as had incurred losses, the British Government examined and satisfied such claims as were submitted to it. In the year 1819 an Act of Parliament was passed which, as the advocates of Baron de Bode contend, falsely recited that all those claims which had been entered were duly registered, and then directed that all these registered claims should be disposed of, and that any surplus (if any) which might remain out of the sums paid by the French Government should be paid into the Exchequer, and be placed to the account of the Lords of the Treasury.

ROYAL ACADEMY EXHIBITION.

[FOURTH NOTICE.]

THE general excellence of the exhibition is to a certain extent proved by the number of pictures to which one has found it necessary to append marginal notes in the catalogue, notes which, if expanded to the extent of their capabilities, would fill a volume of this Journal, and which therefore have to be condensed into somewhat crude but always honest criticism.

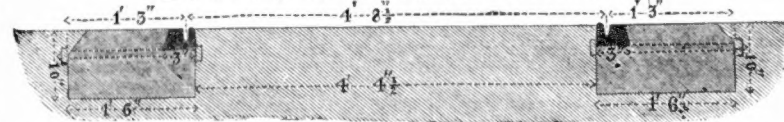
Proceeding seriatim where we left off, we find a good example of Mr. Rankley's quiet homely style in No. 309, "George Stephenson at Darlington." There is nothing striking in this picture, certainly nothing poetical in the young engineer instructing the pretty Quakeresses in the art of embroidery; but the painting is sound and honest, and the quaint primness of the entire family is cleverly rendered, and not without humour. No. 310, "Sunrise—Monte Rosa," is a very lovely landscape by Mr. G. E. Hering, in which one scarcely knows which to admire most—the boldness of the scope, or the delicate softness of the finish. No. 316, "Waiting for an Audience," by Mr. Lawless, is an unpleasant caricature; No. 320, "Marken—Zuyder Zee," is one of those brown, leathery landscapes, so heavy, so wanting in atmosphere, of which Mr. George Stanfield always sends three or four examples. No. 325, "The Last Days of Queen Anne," by Mr. I. Z. Bell, in composition and execution would disgrace a signboard-painter. Its only redeeming quality is one which the artist never intended—a strong touch of the ludicrous. Very good indeed is Mr. E. Crowe's "Slaves Waiting for Sale, Richmond, Virginia" (328). All the types of slave life are admirably hit off. There is the earnest, quiet mother with her baby; the comic, careless girl, the "Dinah" of nigger melodies, crowning the child; the middle-aged nigger looking calmly on, expectant of the coming buyer, and the sharp-faced Yankee driver, all drawn to the life. There is power in Mr. M. Anthony's "Sunset" (410), though tinged with exaggeration; and Mr. F. Barwell's "Hero of the Day" (411), representing a home-returning volunteer leading a pony-cart, in which is seated his little son bearing a silver cup, his father's shooting-prize, is a pleasant embodiment of contemporaneous doings. The sunlight effect in the picture is specially well managed. Mr. Marcus Stone's picture of "Claudio, Deceived by Don John, Accuses Hero," is one of the cleverest bits in the exhibition, and promises most hopefully for the young artist's future. The conception is capital, the drawing and pose of the figures good and natural, and the colouring, save for a little brownness in tone, vivid and satisfactory. Considering that this is but Mr. Stone's third year, he ought to make a name. A curious, unpleasant-looking picture at first glance is No. 432, "The Captive's Return;" but it will repay inspection. The wounded boy being conveyed towards the boat is interesting and sympathetic, and the horror and excitement of the gillies in the background are powerfully expressed. "The Seven Ages" have often been painted, but never better than by Mr. G. Smith (434-40), who has departed from the conventional models, and shown skill and taste. The best are "The Lover," an interesting couple of the Burns and Highland Mary type; "The Soldier," in which a camp-firelight effect is cleverly introduced; and "The Justice," an old gentleman seated on a bench by a garden-wall reprimanding a boy for orchard-robbing. The "Old Age" is the mere conventional spectacled pantaloon, and the "Second Childhood" is very painful; but the pictures collectively are good and betoken original talent. Mr. J. Brett, once so much Ruskin-belauded, sends a view of "Warwick Castle" (451), very clever, and involving an immense amount of labour, but, after all, very unsatisfactory. Mr. W. Linnell's "Collecting the Flocks—Evening," is the landscape of the exhibition. A more marvellously rich representation of nature has not been seen for many years. The deep glow of the blooming heather, the gorgeous sunlight effect—so gorgeous that you involuntarily shade your eyes while gazing at it; the wondrous middle-distance—better middle-distance has never been painted—and the hazy outline of the horizon, are all rendered with incomparable skill and truth. We do not care for either of Mr. J. T. Linnell's pictures. Mr. S. Solomon has but one contribution (493), "A Young Musician Employed in the Temple Service during the Feast of Tabernacles," a Hebrew lad, painted with great earnestness, truth, and power. It is pleasant to see this young artist so wedded to the portrayal of the characteristics of his nation, characteristics which he has thoroughly mastered; and, now that he has rid himself of his original tendency to preternatural ugliness, his art-power increases year by year. Mr. Bacani's "Dante at Florence" is so manifest a reproduction of M. Cabanel's "Florentine Poet," now exhibiting at Paris, and the photograph of which is to be seen in every printshop window, that we wonder at the hanging committee giving it a place. Both power and humour are to be found in Mr. Egley's "Military Aspirations" (505), and unstrained sentiment in Mr. Carrick's "Boy Left Behind at School" (506). Mr. Inchbold, who always paints neatly and naturally, but who has an unavoidable tendency to niggle and fret away his strength, has taken a bolder and wider sweep this year with his "Furze Blossom" (535), while preserving his pre-Raphaelite delicacy of finish. Mr. Britton Willis's cattle are always good, and his Welsh mountains (536) are a decided improvement on his usual landscape-painting. Mr. Smallfield has a quaint hankering after ugliness: his "Florentine Snyders" is, at first glance, hideous, but on closer examination it will be found to be not only well painted, but full of life and character. There is taste and feeling in Mr. Barwell's "A Mother's Relics" (546), and (what is certainly not very romantic) very good painting of a black silk dress. No. 557, "Quite as Effective as Charlie—Present Arms!" is a representation of a very vulgar, black-eyed woman in a volunteer's coat over her own dress, and with a volunteer's cap on her ringleted head: the accessories lead us to imagine a sportive wife in her Charlie's dressing-room. Heaven help Charlie under such an infliction! This picture is the acme of bad taste. No. 566, "Seaside Visitors—Story of the Wreck," is a clever picture by Mr. T. F. Marshall. The visitors are ordinary, every day people, dressed in their usual clothes, not the monstrosities which in some artists' eyes misrepresent "society;" and there is real pathos in the episode of the blind old fisherman mending his nets, and his communicative grandson standing by. "The Harbour Bar is Moaning—Newhaven Fisherman's Cottage" is exaggerated, and coarse in drawing and colour: the snub-nosed boy at the window is specially ludicrous. Miss Solomon's "Arrest of a Deserter" is decidedly clever: a guardsman has deserted and joined a strolling company of actors; he has been discovered, and is being conveyed back again in his theatrical clothes by two of his comrades. Wobegone and melancholy is the poor wretch's expression—honest and bluff, yet pitying, the looks of his captors—and very compassionate and loving the gaze of one of his female friends. It is a pity that Miss Solomon should have introduced into a theatrical subject a theatrical purse, which is offered as a bribe to the soldiers, and which is so large and well stuffed that it could contain nothing but "notes to double the amount," or—gallery checks. No. 590, "The Bribe," by Mr. Storey, is unintelligible; one cannot elucidate much

from the picture, but the quotations in the catalogue knock asunder even the little plot we had formed, and leave us in hopeless tangle as to the author's meaning. Mr. P. Levin, a name hitherto unknown to us, sends a very good picture, "Interior of a German Kursaal" (800). The different types of gambler are clever and unconventional. The lamplight effect is well managed; there is natural force in the episode of the peasant and his earnestly-beseeching love; and of the incoming English travellers, the father so respectable, the girls so fresh and so pure. There is also great humour in the next picture, "Doing Business" (801), with its quaint rendering of an apt quotation from the Proverbs. There are three seascapes in this room which merit special attention, and which, in certain qualifications, are unsurpassed throughout the collection—No. 616, "The Stone Walls of Old England," by Mr. C. P. Knight; No. 622, "Cornish Headlands," by Mr. I. P. Jackson; and No. 638, "The Old Lizard Head," by Mr. J. G. Naish. In the first the bold, bluff cliff standing straight out of the deep blue water, whose white crested waves are breaking at its base, the stonework rough and porous, and the vegetation growing in the chinks and

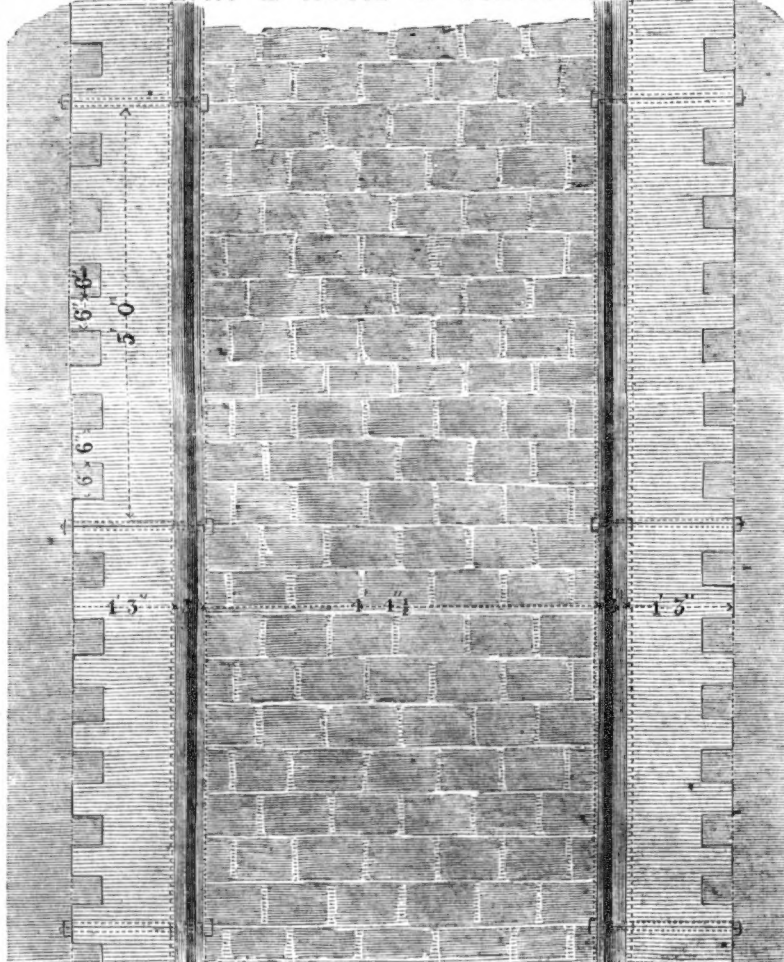
fiatures, are all marvellously rendered. Equal praise is due to the others, save that in Mr. Naish's picture the cuddled white of the foam is somewhat extravagant. Another very pretty seascape, in a quieter style, is Mr. Fenn's "Clovell" (78), hanging in the east room. Mr. W. J. Grant's "The Tower, February, 1553—The Last Reliques of Lady Jane Grey," is forcible, but theatrical in the pose of the principal figure, and very unpleasant in subject: spilled blood is nowhere pleasant to look upon, especially on white satin dresses. Mr. Arthur Hughes, one of the best of the pre-Raphaelites, has an unpretending but an excellent picture, called "Home from Work" (624). A labourer, arrived at his cottage-door, stoops down to kiss the child who, barefooted and nightgown clad, has issued forth to meet him. The man's figure and the expression of his honest face are natural and vigorous; the rustic accessories are well conceived and cleverly executed, and the painting of the child's flannel gown is, as Mr. Ruskin would say, "very precious."

The portraits, the architecture, and the sculpture, we must leave to our next and final notice.

SECTION of ROAD & TRAMWAY



PLAN of ROAD & TRAMWAY



NEW MODE of COMBINING IRON AND STONE TRAMWAYS.

(To the Editor of the ILLUSTRATED TIMES.)

Dear Sir,—As an able public instructor, I venture to address you concerning the iron railroads on the highways, especially on those in the vicinity of this great metropolis. If these iron railways were constructed so that all carriages could run on them their utility could scarcely be overrated; but, as at present formed, with Mr. Train's vehicles, they are an injury and a hindrance to the general traffic.

The following is a description of Mr. Curtis's carriage, and of a combined stone and iron railroad on which all vehicles could run:—

Mr. Curtis is the inventor of a carriage with two front shifting-flange guiding-wheels, by which the carriage can be transferred from the rail to the common road at any moment, and can travel on it like any common carriage. This carriage weighs about two tons. The wheels are the same as those of other omnibuses. It can carry fifty persons (all sitting), like the Manchester omnibuses. The rails should be grooved like those at Paris, so that the flange guides the carriage that works in it. The road between the iron rails should be 4 feet 4 inches. This may be either formed of granite slabs, or paved, or macadamised. The surface beyond the rails is fifteen inches on both sides, composed alternately of long and short paving-stones or granite slabs, notched at the edges, which prevent the outside soft road from being depressed below the edge of the stones. The only objection to the granite railroad at Milan is that it is somewhat slippery and dangerous. The above road would be perfectly safe. All carriages, whatever their gauge, can work on or from these trams, there being no raised rail to impede their progress.

The difference of the draught on an iron railroad as compared with a granite slab is 25 per cent, on a paved road is about 125 per cent, but compared with a macadamised or gravel road it would range from 200 to 250 per cent; consequently the advantages of an iron road, properly constructed, are great indeed, and are applicable to all highways.

For further explanation I refer you to the accompanying plan.

Believe me very truly yours,

HARRINGTON.

Palace Gardens, Kensington, May 22.

OPERA AND CONCERTS.

ON Monday Mario appeared, for the first time this season, at COVENT GARDEN in the "Barbiere di Siviglia." Mario's Almaviva is always a most attractive performance for the opera-goer, and, as long as the great tenor continues to sing so charmingly and act so gaily and so gracefully as he did on Monday, he need fear no rival in this opera. Ronconi was the Figaro, Tagliafico played Basilio, and the part of Rosina was taken by Mme. Carvalho; therefore, those of our readers who were not present may easily believe that the "Barbiere" was one of the most perfect representations yet seen even during this eminently brilliant season. Signor Ciampi made his first appearance at this theatre in Bartolo: he is a little too comical.

The Musical Society of London gave their last concert for the season at St. James's Hall on Wednesday night. The music was admirably chosen, and the performance was worthy of the music. Miss Goddard's execution of Sterndale Bennett's concerto in C minor was particularly applauded. The band, conducted by Mr. Alfred Mellon, performed Beethoven's Pastoral Symphony and the overture to "Euryanthe," "Der Berggeist," and the "Midsummer Night's Dream" to perfection.

A new musical society has been started. It is called the Musical Art-Union, and is organised, we are told, "for the advancement of music." The band consists of 58 performers—10 first fiddles, 10 seconds, 6 violas, 6 violoncellos, and 5 double basses, together with the full complement of wind instruments and instruments of percussion. There is also a choir of sixty "professional" singers. Mr. H. Blagrove and Herr Deichmann are the principal violists, and Herr Klindworth, a pianist of high repute, is conductor. The first of these concerts, designed to show of what stuff the orchestra is composed, was given at the Hanover-square Rooms a few days since; in all respects it was successful.

LOVE, MURDER, AND LAW.—A singular affair is related in the Madrid journals. A Captain of Marines, of the name of Useletti, twenty-four years of age, employed in the Ministry of Marine at Madrid, fell in love some time back with a pretty and rich young girl of the name of Munoz, who was in a boarding-school. Her parents being dead, he applied to her guardian for permission to marry her, but the latter refused, though the girl was willing to consent. On that the young man went before the Judge of the district in which he resided, and, representing his and the girl's desire to marry, obtained from him—in virtue of articles 1277, 1278, and 1310 of the Code of Civil Procedure—authorisation to remove Mlle. Munoz from the boarding-school, to place her under the care of a respectable matron, and to visit her; but he was forbidden to take her out except in the company of the said matron, or with the express permission of the Judge. One evening on calling on Mlle. Munoz he found her in company with a young man named Tapia, brother-in-law of the matron, Mlle. Martin, and as Tapia was good-looking, and had avowed an intention to pay court to the young lady, he (Useletti) was much irritated, but said nothing. The day after he obtained permission from the Judge to take Mlle. Munoz to Aranjuez. On their return to Madrid in the evening he went straight to the house in which Tapia lived, and, as that person was not at home, seated

himself at his door to await his return. The moment Tapia presented himself Useletti discharged a pistol right at his breast, and the unfortunate man fell, bathed in blood. Useletti then took to flight, but a police officer, having seen what occurred, pursued and captured him. In four days Tapia died; and shortly after Useletti was brought to trial before the Naval Tribunal on the charge of murder. He readily admitted that he had deliberately shot the man, but declared that he (Tapia) had insulted her in the grossest manner. He was condemned to twenty years' hard labour. Last week he appealed against the condemnation to the Supreme Tribunal of War and Marine, and the Court resolved that, as an insult to the young lady he was about to marry was a gross provocation, the sentence should be quashed. It, however, declared that he should be placed under surveillance of the police for life; also that the pistol he used should be confiscated.

THE BANKRUPTCY BILL.—The Bankruptcy Bill has been printed, with the alterations introduced by the Select Committee to whom the measure was referred by the House of Lords. The bill, when it left the House of Commons, provided for the appointment of a Chief Judge in lieu of the present Commissioners in London. The object of this provision was to ensure uniformity in the decisions and practice of the court, to provide an economical and satisfactory court of appeal, and to procure for the administration of the bankruptcy laws the same decorum that is observed in other courts of justice. The Select Committee have struck out this part of the bill, and leave the law to be administered by the existing commissioners. The bill provided that the creditors should decide whether a bankrupt's estate should be realised by agents chosen by themselves or the official assignee. The Select Committee refuse to give the creditors such option, and leave the estate to be realised as at present. The bill provided that the creditors should be periodically informed of the course of liquidation of a bankrupt's estate by receiving a statement from the official assignee. The Select Committee refuse to assent to such information being conveyed to them. The bill provided that any debtor might petition the Bankruptcy Court for an adjudication against himself. The Select Committee will allow any non-trader to do so, but only those trader-debtors whose estates will realise £150. The bill provided in the case of trust deeds for giving validity to such deeds where the holders of bills of exchange could not be discovered. The Select Committee refuse to permit private arrangements to be effected unless all the creditors can be found. These are some of the changes made in this important measure.

MODERATE.—We mean to conquer them—the Southerners—not merely to defeat, but to conquer, to subjugate them; and we shall do this the most mercifully the most speedily we do it. But when the rebellious traitors are overwhelmed in the field and scattered like leaves before an angry wind, it must not be to return to peaceful and contented houses. They must find poverty at their firesides, and see privation in the anxious eyes of mothers and the rags of children.—New York Tribune.

ADVICE TO BRITISH SHIPS.—Lord Lyons had been in communication with the British Consul at New Orleans, and the following is an extract from a despatch dated May 8:—"The best advice you can give British ships is to get off as fast as possible without serious inconvenience. After the blockade has been commenced they will be allowed fifteen days to take their departure, but they will not be allowed to carry out any cargo, or passengers, taken on board after the effective blockade was actually begun; indeed, according to the rules of blockade, I believe they will be liable to confiscation for attempting to go out with a cargo shipped after the commencement of a blockade. But the effective blockade does not begin until the blockading squadron actually appears off the port. The President's proclamation is only the declaration of an intention to blockade."

the error in the genuine impression would tend to

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